

REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA



**BUDGET SPEECH BY THE HONOURABLE
DR ALBERT KAWANA, MP
MINISTER OF PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS,
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY,
VOTE 01,
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**

12 March 2014

PARLIAMENT

**Check Against Delivery*

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I rise once again with honour and humility to motivate Vote 01, Office of the President to this august House. In presenting this motivation, I am mindful of the need to fast-track the debate on the Appropriation Bill for immediate implementation as agreed in the SWAPO Party Caucus. Indeed, our able Minister of Finance and her colleagues have produced volumes of information, including the accountability report. In addition, His Excellency Dr. Hifikepunye Pohamba, President of our Republic will address his nation soon. The address will mainly center on the Appropriation Bill. The purpose of my motivation, therefore, is merely to fill the gaps on the Vote of the Office of the President. I am further mindful of the fact that we are at the Committee stage of the Appropriation Bill where only details should be addressed.

The Constitution of the Republic of Namibia vests in our President with specific duties and responsibilities. Article 32 outlines the most critical duties and roles of the President. The President is also entrusted with numerous functions under a number of Acts of Parliament. In addition, the common law and customary law, as recognized under Article 66 of the Namibian Constitution, impose certain functions on the President. These responsibilities place additional demands and their implementation requires both human and financial resources.

**Honourable Chairperson,
Honourable Members,**

As a demonstration of the sterling leadership of His Excellency, Dr. Hifikepunye Pohamba over the years, our country continues to enjoy peace and stability. This has enabled the Government to implement policies and programmes aimed at advancing the national development agenda, and the improvement of the living conditions of our people. We continue to be rated highly in good governance. We are among the top ten and in some cases top five on the Continent.

In the fulfillment of his constitutional mandate, the President has engaged in consultations with various stakeholders, both inside and outside Government. In addition, our President travelled to various parts of the country to gauge the implementation of the SWAPO Party Government projects and to familiarize himself with the challenges faced by communities in our country.

