



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

BUDGET SPEECH

VOTE 07

FOR THE 2014/2015 FINANCIAL YEAR

BY

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INTRODUCTION

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee,
Honourable Members,

The 2014/15 budget is being presented at a time when bilateral relations and multilateral undertakings are increasingly focusing on economic issues; a time when countries are forging new economic alliances. A case in point is the emergence of MINT that stands for Mexico, Indonesia, Nigeria and Turkey. Against this background, I would like to add my voice to those who spoke before me in congratulating the Hon. Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila, Minister of Finance, the Director General of the National Planning Commission and their staff for the 2014-2015 budget, and for the theme: “Growing the Economy and Optimizing Development Outcomes”. I fully concur with this theme as it is in line with the focus of our Foreign Policy, which is centered on economic diplomacy.

Honourable Chairperson,
Honourable Members,

REVIEW OF THE 2013/14 FINANCIAL YEAR INCLUDING ACHIEVEMENTS AND CONSTRAINTS

When I submitted the budget of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the 2013/14 financial year, I had painted a picture of some parts on the African continent, being marred in conflicts such as the eastern part of the DRC, Mali and the Central African Republic. These conflicts stem partly from social and economic challenges. I painted a picture of rising African optimism, as they prepared themselves to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of the continental organization, the Organization of the African Unity today the African Union. I rounded up

