



CONTRIBUTION ON PUBLIC PROCUREMENT BILL BY HON ALEXIA MANOMBE-NCUBE DEPUTY MINISTER IN PRESIDENCY-OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT (MP) 06-10-2015

1. Hon Speaker
2. Hon Members of National Assembly

As Deputy Minister responsible for the inclusion of people with disabilities and the mainstreaming of the needs of persons with disabilities in the public spheres, it come as shocking and concerned that needs and aspirations of people with disabilities are not currently ^{directly} part of the Public Procurement Bill. It is important that as a country we remain consistent with our legal framework that we ratified and adopted.

The Bill explicitly states ^{THE EMPOWERMENT OF} ~~that~~ women and youth ~~and~~

1. Under Objectives **Section 2**, empowerment of people with ^{disabilities} disabilities (please not disabled people). We should refer ^{to people with disabilities}
2. ~~Add another objective No. 3, to ensure and promote accessibility of products and services to all including those with various types of disabilities.~~ ^{of Procurement Products by PwDs} ^{> threshold} ^{Empower PwDs} ^{to advance their Companies owners or working}
3. Under section ~~11~~(1), among nine people to be appointed as mentioned that 3 must be female, we suggest that also 1(one) must be a person ^{Section 11} with disabilities nomination to be received through the National ^{1(c)} Disability Council of Namibia. Self-representation of people with ^{refer to PwDs} disabilities is vital as that of women on any decision-making bodies. ^{in invitation} ^{vulnerable group}
4. As part of the functions of the Evaluation Committee or the Central Procurement Board to ensure that the products and services provided to the public are inclusive of the needs of all types of people with disabilities and do not cause barriers to the accessibility of such products

and services including environment, attitudinal and information, communication and technological accessibility by people with disabilities. "Universal design "is the provisions of products are crucial for people with disabilities. This means that the design of products, environments, programmes and services should be usable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized design

5. Part II ,Preferences, Codes of good practice, Section 70 (1),add (f)

Evaluate accessibility of products and services in regard to the needs of various types of persons with disabilities .The inclusion would ensure that a barrier-free or disability friendly products and services are provided by all public bodies without exception.

6. Part II (3), include people with disabilities as a category that need preferential treatment.

I would therefore recommend that all legal drafters receives copies of the following legal instruments in order for them to familiarise themselves and put them in practice so that they may not delay the process and/or exclude people with disabilities and their needs.

A) National Disability Council Act, No 26 of 2004

B) African Decade Plan of Action for Persons with Disabilities and

C) Un Convention on the Rights with persons with Disabilities.

legality section 2 A

I hope and believe that the legal drafters would observe the abovementioned legal instruments during the drafting of any Bill and amendments of any legislation.

Thank you and I whole heartedly support the Bill.