



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY

Tel: (+264 61) 208 7643
Fax: (+264 61) 229 961

Office of the Minister
Government Office Park
Luther Street
Private Bag 13184
WINDHOEK

23 September 2015

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: SMS IN THE NAMIBIAN NEWS PAPER, 23 SEPTEMBER 2015, PAGE 12: DELAYS IN PAYMENTS OF CASUAL WORKERS EMPLOYED IN THE FMD CONTAINMENT AND PREVENTION NATIONAL CAMPAIGNS IN THE NORTHERN COMMUNAL AREAS (NCA's) OF NAMIBIA.

1. The MAWF Minister has thoroughly and objectively investigated the issue of delayed payments for and to the Casual Workers (Labourers), after receipt of complaints from the workers themselves, but also as conveyed through the media.
2. A summary of the findings of the said investigations could be provided as follows:
 - (a) It is confirmed that some delays have been (is being) experienced in the payment of allowances, due to some contractually employed as casual Labourers, to render essential and indispensable Public Services to prevent, contain and completely stop any further spread of the FMD.
 - (b) The affected Regions are more the Regions in the Northern Communal Areas (NCA's) of Namibia, particularly: Kunene North, Omusati, Oshana, Oshikoto, Ohangwena, Kavango West Regions.
 - (c) The delays in actually paying out of the allowances to the specific Labourers, who are contractually and legally appointed are NOT lack of funds, but more unacceptable administrative and bureaucratic

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bottlenecks and inefficiency, on the part of those officials in both MAWF (DVS, Finance Division) and MoF, who are tasked to handle and process the actual payments; obviously within the framework and provisions of the State Finance Act and the applicable Treasury regulations and instructions.

3. Consequently and finally, I gave directives to the responsible officials in the MAWF, DVS and Finance Division, on 22 September 2015, for their immediate remedial actions and practical implementation, as follows:

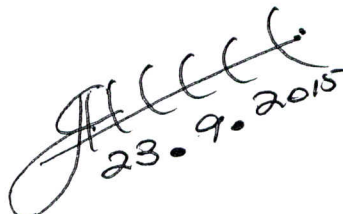
(a) On 27 May 2015, the Cabinet of the Republic of Namibia, approved and directed the MAWF, through the DVS, "to utilized N\$ 129 466 160 million, from within its ceiling, for the 2015 / 2016 Financial Year, to fund the proposed interventions, to contain the further spread of the FMD outbreak." A substantial amount of the said N\$ 129 466 160 million was approved to cater for payment of allowances, to those persons, who were (are) employed as Casual Workers or Labourers, in the said National Emergency (FMD) Campaign.

(b) Although some payments were (are being) effected timeously, it is equally true that, in some cases, some delays appear to be experienced in timeously paying out the said allowances; in some specific instances and in some specific Regions.

(c) Any legitimate payments, due to those legally appointed or legally contracted workers, involved in the 2015 FMD outbreak campaigns, must be paid out! Payments must be paid out only to those who were (are) legally and contractually appointed, to do the assigned work; and who have actually done the work, as certified by their immediate supervisors.

(d) Any unnecessary administrative and bureaucratic delays, in practically effecting the said payments, cannot and may not be acceptable and should thus be avoided or prevented, from occurring, henceforth.

(e) The responsible and assigned officials in the MAWF's DVS, MAWF's FINANCE DIVISION, have been accordingly directed to, henceforth, closely liaise with their corresponding Colleagues or counterparts,


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within the MOF and work out an applicable administrative system, in line with the applicable provisions of the State Finance Act, Treasury rules, regulations and instructions; so as to ensure that: allowances, legitimately due, those persons, legally contracted and appointed to execute essential Public Services, related to the FMD National Campaign, are, henceforth, timeously paid out, what rightly is due to them, but individually.



John MUTORWA, MP
MINISTER

Wednesday, 23 September 2015, NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, Windhoek,
Namibia.

