



## REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

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29 October 2015

### **ANSWER TO THE QUESTION**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Throughout history, people have realised that water is life and have carefully looked after their own water supply from natural sources. Only when population and livestock increased in number, pollution became a factor of life and with the knowledge that pollution creates illnesses in people and cattle, the need for clean water from protected sources was recognized.

Without a good understanding of Namibia's climate it will be difficult to recognise the challenges for and the achievements of the water sector in general and for the rural water supply sector specifically.

First and foremost it is a well-known fact that Namibia has no perennial rivers running across the country and the available four permanent rivers (Orange, Kunene, Kavango and Zambezi) are at the borders and therefore shared water sources with the neighbouring countries.

This fact has caused the government to spend millions of dollars to ensure continued water supply to both rural and urban populations. This is done by means of construction and extensions of water pipelines, drilling of boreholes and construction of earth dams. The water from pipelines are treated and transported over long distances from the Calueque in Angola; boreholes are drilled, installed and water tested for the purpose of human consumption.

The excavated dams are able to harvest more rain water for other use especially for livestock drinking in order to reserve the provision of treated or "potable

drinking water” for human consumption only. The use of earth dams to store and keep water for livestock is encouraged as it will reduce the cost involved in treating water, pumping and maintenance of water infrastructures for both human and livestock consumption.

**QUESTION 75 (2015-10-13): By Hon. Nauyoma (APP)**

What plans are in place now with regard to rehabilitation of Earth dams and construction of new ones in view of the rainy season that is about to start now if we are lucky this year?

**ANSWER**

**1. Construction of Earth Dams:**

A total of four (4) new earth dams were constructed during the Financial Year 2015/2016 in Zambezi region (Kongola Constituency); Kavango East region (Kapako Constituency); Ohangwena region (Ongenga Constituency) and Oshana region (Uuvudhiya Constituency). Water points with troughs were installed to provide water for animals from these dams.

**2. Rehabilitation of Earth Dams:**

A total of eight (8) earth dams were rehabilitated in five (5) regions, namely, Kunene region at Khorixas Constituency (2); Erongo region at Karibib Constituency (2); Otjozondjupa Region at Okakarara and Otjituu Constituencies (2) and //Karas region at Tses and Karasburg Constituencies (2).

- 3.** Furthermore, a Tender for the rehabilitation of thirteen (13) earth dams has been advertised and evaluated. However the work will be executed in the next financial year (2016/2017). Of these, five (5) dams will be in Kunene Region; 2 in Erongo region; 2 in Otjozondjupa region; 2 in Hardap region and 2 in Omaheke region.
- 4.** A Tender for the Rehabilitation of eleven (11) Earth Dams is finalised and the work will be executed in the next Financial Year (2016/2017). These Earth Dams are located as follow: in Kavango West region (1); Ohangwena region (4); Oshikoto region (2); Oshana region (2) and Omusati region (2).
- 5.** Amounts of thirteen million Namibia dollars (N\$ 13,000,000) are budgeted each for the Financial Years 2015/2016 and 2016/2017 respectively.