

The 2011/12 Budget Speech by Hon. P.H. Moongo
DTA of Namibia

Honourable Speaker and Honorable Members of Parliament,

Allow me to salute and congratulate all members of DTA and the Namibian people in general who entrusted me and voted for me to represent them in the Namibian Parliament. You cannot be here to as people's representative unless you have rigged elections. And that cannot be ruled out in this August House as we are still having an ongoing 2009 elections case.

It is now 20 years after Namibia obtained its independence that the so-called "Mighty" SWAPO Party took the government from the minority, apartheid regime. I thought SWAPO Party had ruled enough time. She is supposed to have enough experience and skills on how to run the Government: ministries, control parastatals and institutions, effectively and professionally. It is shocking and horrifying that hundreds of millions are still being embezzled with impunity. In my understanding the more years Namibians allow SWAPO Party to rule; the more they become poorer and in turn SWAPO becomes corrupted.

Hon. Speaker. Honorable and Members of Parliament,

The NBC is busy slashing and minimizing executive managers from 9 to 5 because of lack of funds and mismanagement, the Minister of Finance is giving us a false hope that "employment for all is coming now."

Hon Speaker Honorable and Members of Parliament,

It is embarrassing that NBC loses 170.6 million and again more millions were corruptly abused in the previous cases in the past years. In the same government, hundreds of millions have been stolen through TEKO trading company and 660 millions in GIPF just to mention a few.

There are pertinent questions:

1. Does SWAPO party needs more years to rule after 20 years of our independence have been wasted and gone to the dogs?
2. How much more millions are going to get lost or embezzled or corrupted under its supervision?

Hon Speaker, Honorable Members of Parliament,

It is a fact that before independence and during the war of liberation struggle, there were bitterness and anger caused by the dark chapter of oppression. That bitterness and anger must have been history today. It supposes to be over after the arrival of ~~the dawn~~ democracy and self-determination in Namibia. The spirit of hope, unity, justice and time for true conciliation and reconciliation was supposed to dominate the hearts of all Namibians in order for us to become a real "One Namibia, One Nation". It is a pity that some SWAPO Party leaders who are still enjoying the limelight of State power are misusing it to preach the gospel of hatred, intolerance, discrimination, tribalism, racism and violence. The spirit of true unity is forgotten and now they are preaching the one-party State unity. The result is that true reconciliation is in vain.

Honorable Members of Parliament,

While dishing out more taxpayers' money, in billions, the current ruling party has formulated a discriminatory law that does not benefit some Namibians who were previously feared, accused and being detained as "enemy agents and spies of the apartheid regime". They formulated a War Veterans' Act containing a section that excludes other war veterans except those who "constantly and persistently remained in SWAPO". It must be noted here that the fight for or against the liberation struggle for Namibia was not about "remaining in SWAPO" but the independence of our motherland. The current discriminatory law against some war veterans is nothing else than attempts to make sure that some Namibians were not economically empowered. I therefore call upon the SWAPO Party regime to learn from the current declaration by the High Court of the harsh punishment meted out by the Stock Theft Act as unconstitutional. I also call upon Legal Assistance Center, the human rights groups, Anti-Corruption Commission and legal-minded people to intervene and render legal support the ex-detainees and war veterans to seek redress against the violation of their Constitutional rights and, specifically, Article 10 in the Namibian Constitution which prohibits discrimination as unlawful in Namibia. The economic benefits of the State cannot be confined to individuals because of their political ideology at the expense of all.

Honorable Members of Parliament,

The clearly discriminatory practice by the SWAPO-led government confirms that true reconciliation and true healing is a pipedream. ~~Minister of Finance~~, it is political hypocrisy to budget and receive funds from international community, in the name of all citizens, but only to deny fellow citizens the very same public resources. The peace and harmony can only be achieved if the national cake is benefiting everyone and not those "who remained in SWAPO". This is crime against humanity being committed by Swapo Party in Namibia. Therefore, because of this denial to access the public resources, Government must establish a Truth and Reconciliation Commission, composed of an ex-Bishop, traditional leaders, and an ex-judges to listen to all concerned parties and reconcile them so that the practice of discrimination can come to an end. I recommend that the said Act be returned to this August House and the discriminatory section be removed so that all Namibians who qualified as war veterans can benefit with political favor. There is need for a fair compensation to the victims and then reconciliation will start from there, then Namibia can become 'One Namibia and One Nation'.

Honorable Speaker, Members of Parliament,

The flood situation in Caprivi, Kavango and the former Ovamboland regions was left to continue unabated. Every year, we have the same experience and problem caused by rain and flood. One wants to ask as what happened to the funds that were collected during the same problem? Was there no budget allocation during the 2009/2010 to solve this flood crisis once and for all? The Government should have concrete huge dams to catch the to harvest the free flowing water from Oshanas. Such large amount of water could be used for food production. Now, it is clear that little or nothing was done in the last twenty years.

Honorable Speaker, Honourable Members of Parliament,

The solution is that the Ministry of Works, which will benefit from the N\$9 billion for employment creation, is suppose to build huge bridges on the low lying parts of the road to allow a large amount of water to flow smoothly through, and also build medium bridges in-between the main bridges. There is also a need to build canals to lead the water away from inhabited areas. This will prevent water to overflow and destroy properties, such as buildings in the surrounding areas. Large and medium bridges on the main roads (tarred and gravel) must be build in the areas that are prone to flood. The

current, small bridges prevent and block the water to flow unhindered as it is traditionally used to do from Angola.

Honorable Speaker and Honourable Members of Parliament,

The residents of Oneshila, in Oshakati, Oshana Region, are in danger of being flooded because the oldest NamWater dam is full to its capacity and it has no sluices to release water. And even if it has sluices, it is located in the middle of the town. NamWater is responsible for this poor planning and must pay the damage to be caused by overflow of water. The ministry of Agriculture, under which NamWater falls, must use its part current budge of employment creation, to build a modern dam far from center of town. I strongly believe this is one way of creating new jobs for the unemployed Namibians.

Honorable Speaker and Honourable Members of Parliament,

I am generally happy with the current budget (2011/12) amounting to N\$ 37.7 Billion. Its appearance looks reasonable and the presentation by Hon. Minister of Finance sounds impressive. But the serious concern is whether the ministries and departments have the capacity to implement it and whether the pressing problems will be addressed. Will the fund create employment it is earmarked for in order to reduce the high rate of unemployment? Will poverty, hunger and flooding be addressed directly by this budget? There is a dire need for classrooms to be built at both primary and secondary schools. Teachers's salaries need to be increased as an incentive to get and retain the best qualified teachers in public schools. If this budget is not catering for the concerns I raised above, it will it be another futile exercise and a way of blowing more hundreds of millions into the air as usual.

Honorable Speaker and Members of Parliament,

The second to get the biggest share of the budget is the health sector. There have been complaints of overtime of nurses not being paid by the State. There were reports of patients dying because of gas or electricity blackout. Will there be no reports of the lifts broken down. Will there be enough medicines. Will doctors be recruited for health center and hospital? I am asking these questions because I am worried as SWAPO Party government

seem to have good, planning consultant but has a problem to implement its own plan.

Honorable Speaker and Honourable Members of Parliament,

The defense sector has also received a big share of the cake. Will the money address the problem the thin salaries of the ordinary members of Defense Force or it will it just increase the bigger salaries of the high ranking officers in the force? The salaries of the non-ranked officers need to be adjusted urgently in order to close the gap between those with high ranks and those with lower or no rank. There is also an urgent need to construct more, new military bases. Hopefully, the amount allocated for employment

The amount allocated to create employment, must be seriously supervised and monitored to avoid more lip-service and the money ending up in the pockets of individuals who hide behind the name Black Economic Empowerment (BEE). The unemployment will keep on rising as long as corruption has become a tradition of running this country. What I can say for now is, let us wait and see!