



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF SAFETY AND SECURITY

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**Hon. Chairperson of the Whole House Committee,
Honourable Members,**

I stand here today to present Vote 06 for the Ministry of Safety and Security.

Before I proceed further, allow me to thank the Honourable Minister of Finance Comrade Calle Schlettwein and his entire team, for a well-crafted budget which, notwithstanding the economic challenges, addresses, amongst others, the infrastructural development, as well as the economic growth of our country. He therefore deserves applause from all members of this August House.

It is gratifying to note that Namibia has just celebrated her twenty-eighth years of independence last month. This is to a large extent due to the dedication of the men and women in uniform, who maintained law and order for all those years. The peace and stability we have enjoyed since the attainment of our Independence on 21 March 1990 are really indicative that the country's security apparatus has grown into a law enforcement agency to reckon with.

**Hon. Chairperson of the Whole House Committee;
Honourable Members,**

In order to effectively execute its mandate, as enshrined in the Namibian Constitution, the Ministry has identified eight (8) broad budget programmes, according to which it plans to attain its stated objectives. These programmes have been developed along the country's long and medium term development goals; namely Vision 2030, NDP 5 and Harambee Prosperity Plan - with a view to ensuring an environment conducive for socio- economic development, peace and internal security.

**Honourable of the Whole House Committee;
Honourable Members,**

Before I get into the budget, permit me to give a brief account of the crime situation in the country. Although we have been privileged to enjoy peace and stability and the rule of law, there are worrisome trends posed by incidences of murder, theft, robbery, domestic violence, drug trafficking, smuggling of contraband and dangerous articles into Correctional facilities, rape, fraud and cybercrimes, just to mention a few. The commission of such crimes does not only bring fear amidst our law abiding citizens, but also, creates an adverse state of affairs for investors who may perceive our country to be not conducive for the investment of their money.

The solution lies within all of us. Therefore, my humble appeal goes to all our citizens and visitors to our beautiful country - to assist law enforcement agencies in curbing the commission of crimes in our society.

My call should not be construed as a representation of failure of the Ministry to arrest the situation, but rather a call to a shared responsibility with all

inhabitants of our country, towards the maintenance of law and order and the combating of evil deeds in our society.

I am happy to report that the Ministry of Safety and Security has started with the drafting of a National Crime Combating Strategy, to improve public safety in the country and is envisaged to be implemented fully in the second quarter of the 2019/2020 Financial Year.

I am also happy to inform this August house that the Offender Risk Management Correctional Strategy which was rolled out to some Correctional Facilities has helped the Ministry to reach a big number of high risk of offenders participating in two cognitive based structured programmes. The Ministry has also introduced a new rehabilitation programme called Motivating Offenders to Rethink Everything (M.O.R.E) and many offenders have participated in this programme. The increase in the number of offenders participating in cognitive based structural programmes, vocational training and educational programmes resulted in low number of re-offending after conditional release which is an indication that offenders are slowly reintegrating into the community as law abiding citizens.

There is also slight decrease in the smuggling of contraband into correctional facilities. The Ministries has also progressed in improving facilities structurally to comply with UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of offenders or Nelson Mandela Rules.

With regard to traffic law enforcement, our law enforcers managed to reduce the road traffic accidents, which cause death, as well as major and minor injuries, on the national roads. This was done through highway patrols, police visibility on the national public roads, random breath and/or blood testing for drunk driving, among others.

**Hon. Chairperson of the Whole House Committee;
Honourable Members,**

Namibia continues to maintain excellent relations and cooperation with all her neighbouring countries. It goes without saying that without the on-going mutual assistance, understanding and cooperation it would be very difficult, if not impossible, to fight crime, especially cross border and transnational organized crime. The country maintains Joint Permanent Commissions on Defence and Security with Angola, Botswana, South-Africa and Zambia. All security related threats are openly discussed and joint programmes of action are designed during these meetings at Ministerial level.

This cooperation with the neighbouring states is further consolidated through the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Organ on Defence and Security. Hence, Namibia remains a member of the SADC Standby Force Brigade.

In support of the international community's efforts in maintaining peace, stability and economic development around the globe, Namibia, as a signatory to the United Nations Charter, has participated in a number of peacekeeping and peace support operations since the year 2000, under the auspices of the United Nations and/or African Union and SADC, by sending for deployment contingents and individual police officers to different missions.

**Hon. Chairperson of the Whole House Committee,
Honourable Members,**

Although the Ministry of Safety and Security has succeeded to curb some incidences of crime in the country, it did so with inadequate resources allocated to it through the national budget.

Furthermore, I would like to draw your attention, Honourable Members, to the fact that the provision of adequate and suitable living accommodation for men and women in uniform in some areas remains a critical challenge, a difficult task to accomplish. As such, the majority of uniform members in urban areas, especially the lower ranks, are still squatting in the informal settlements - under difficult circumstances - as they have no access to decent living accommodation. This, as you know, Honourable Members, is due to the high cost of houses and exorbitant renting fees. Their colleagues who are operating at our borders are sleeping in tents; they are, thus, exposed to all types of harsh weather and other personal safety risks.

It is also vital to highlight that the Ministry did not acquire vehicles for the past three (3) financial years; thus, seventy percent (70%) of the fleet has reached its lifespan. The maintenance of fleet has as increasingly become very costly and the mobility police is negatively affected.

The Ministry still requires modern operational equipment for a continuous service delivery improvement such as; CCTV cameras for the maintenance of security and order in sensitive environment to prevent the smuggling of contraband into Correctional facilities, open to riots, attack by offenders and escapes.

Hon. Chairperson of the Whole House Committee

Honourable Members

I am, once again, presenting to this Honourable House that the Ministry is facing human capital challenges owing to a high staff turnover, which is due to a number of contributing factors, such as resignation, retirement, death and discharges. However, despite the stated turnover, the Ministry has halted the recruitment of new members, except a few replacements for critical positions.

Hence, the need to allocate sufficient financial resources to the Ministry, for the latter to have sufficient means to guarantee the sustainability of the pillars of our democracy. This, inter alia, will enhance the competitiveness of our country - within the context of SADC, the African Continent and globally, in the area of socio- economic development.

Hon. Chairperson of the Whole House Committee;

Honourable Members,

Allow me now to spell out in detail the composition of the eight programmes, that I have referred to as bearing the core activities of the Ministry during the 2018/2019 Financial Year.

1. Combating of Crime Programme

The main purpose of this programme is to prevent and reduce the level of crime in the country in order to provide for a safe and conducive environment for economic development.

It will still be under this programme that crime intelligence, prevention and investigation operations are conducted, while ensuring at the same time that accused persons and witnesses are brought to courts.

An amount of Three billion, five hundred and forty million, six hundred and fifty-two thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$ 3 540 652 000) is required for this programme.

2. Training and Development Programme

This programme is aimed at improving service delivery by providing quality education, professional training and career development through basic training, advanced, specialised training and staff development. It is always incumbent upon any institution that has a desire to stay upfront in service delivery to engage continuously in the academic progression of its staff compliment.

An amount of eighty-eight million, six hundred and twenty-nine thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$ 88 629 000) is required for this programme.

3. VIPs Protection Programme

The central purpose of this programme is to render protection to national and visiting foreign Very Important Persons (VIPs) and, at the same time, to

provide security at their residences and offices. The programme will also cater for national and foreign missions to be undertaken by national leaders.

An amount of four hundred and two million, two hundred and twenty-seven thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$ 402 227 000) is required for this programme.

4. Information and Communication Technology

In line with Government's E-governance policy, the Ministry of Safety and Security has made a notable technological advancement.

Having rolled out both the E-Policing and the NamPol Automated Biometric Identification System (N-ABIS) to most crucial infrastructures, CCTV coverage to some facilities has also been successfully deployed, to ensure that safety and security are attained.

In line with the Ministerial Strategic Plan, the envisaged safe city CCTV coverage will be deployed to the rest of the country, once the resources are available, to ensure that all sorts of crimes will have no place in our towns and cities or any other places within our country.

An amount of sixty-four million, two hundred and fourty thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$ 64 240 000) is required for this programme.

5. Forensic Services Programme

This programme centres on providing services to multi-disciplinary scientific entities that may require scientific solutions to crime and related issues. It covers a range of complex scientific skills, such as documents examination, analytical chemistry, explosives analysis, blood analysis, etc., requiring

adequate resources in order to provide answers to, among other complex issues, murder and rape cases.

An amount of twenty-one million, one hundred and seventy-eight thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$ 21 178 000) is required for this programme.

6. Safe Custody Programme

An amount of seven hundred and twenty-seven million, six hundred and seventy-seven thousand Namibian dollars (N\$727,677,000) is required for this programme.

This programme contributes to the protection of society by providing reasonable, safe, secure and humane custody of offenders in accordance with universally acceptable standards. It also assists inmates in the reformation of criminal behaviour through the offender risk management correctional strategy, which includes, among others, risk and needs assessment, delivery of rehabilitative programmes and services to reduce reoffending.

7. Rehabilitation and Reintegration Programme

Thirty-seven million and ninety-three thousand Namibia dollars (N\$37,093,000) is required for this programme.

This programme will assist the offenders to successfully return into society as law-abiding citizens through controlled and gradual release supported by community corrections with proper supervision and support.

8. Coordination and Support Services Programme

Two hundred and ninety million, one hundred and four thousand Namibia dollars (N\$290,104,000) is required for this programme.

This programme encompasses all administrative and coordinative services to support the Ministry.

**Hon. Speaker and Chairperson of the Whole House Committee;
Honourable Members,**

In conclusion, I am submitting to this August House, to approve the budget allocation for Vote 06 for the following programmes.

Programmes for Vote 06	Amount per Programme
Combating of Crime	3 540 652 000
Training and Development	88 629 000
VIP's Protection	402 227 000
Information and Communication Technology Management	64 240 000
Forensic Science Services	21 178 000
Safety Custody and Rehabilitation	727 677 000
Re-integration	37 093 000
Policy Co-ordination and Support services	290 104 000
Total:	5 171 800 000

The total allocation of this Vote is **Five billion, one hundred and seventy-one million, eight hundred thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$5 171 800 000)**. Out of these amount **three hundred and thirty million, eight hundred and nine thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$ 330 809 000)** is for infrastructural development or capital project.

I now humbly submit this, Honourable Speaker and Chairperson of the Whole House Committee and all Honourable Members, for your kind consideration and approval.

I THANK YOU!