

# REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA



**STATEMENT BY HON. MARTIN ANDJABA,  
MINISTER OF PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS  
ON THE OCCASSION OF THE TABLING OF  
VOTE 31 (VETERANS AFFAIRS) FOR THE  
2018/2019 FINANCIAL YEAR**

**13 APRIL 2018**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

*\*Check Against Delivery.*

**Honorable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee,  
Honorable Members**

**On 10 April 2018, I stood before you to table the budget estimates for Vote 1: Office of the President. In my capacity as Minister of Presidential Affairs, I am also tasked to table the budget estimates for Vote 31: Veterans Affairs to this august House.**

**I informed the house on that day that in his wisdom, the Head of State has placed the Veterans Affairs portfolio directly under the Presidency. This has provided the required prominence and focus on this critical aspect of nation building to improve the living conditions of thousands of Namibian men and women who gave up so much and contributed immensely and selflessly to the national liberation struggle.**

**During the 2017/2018 Financial Year, Veterans Affairs was allocated an amount of Nine Hundred and Eighteen Million Six Hundred and Eight Five Namibia Dollars (N\$918,685,000). Of this, Nine Hundred and Six Million Three Hundred and Five Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$906,305,000) was earmarked for operational activities. Eight Hundred and Twenty Five Million Seven Hundred and Seventeen Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$825,717,000) of this amount catered mainly for the safety nets of Veterans.**

**An amount of Twelve Million Three Hundred and Eighty Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$12,380,000) was allocated towards the development budget.**

**The commitment of our Government to the Veterans of the liberation struggle is beyond question. Although the implementation of programmes is curtailed due to the difficult economic conditions, we will do what is necessary with the resources at our disposal.**

**It is my pleasure to point out that during the 2017/2018 Financial Year, a number of achievements were made:**

- **Three thousand three hundred and thirty four (3,334) applications for aspiring veterans were considered by the Veterans Board. Three hundred and sixty five (365) were granted;**
- **The Appeal Board received six hundred and fifty nine (659) appeals. Four hundred (400) were adjudicated;**
- **The number of veterans benefitting from the monthly grant increased by One Thousand Two Hundred and Thirty Eight (1,238), bringing the total beneficiaries to fifteen thousand four hundred and fifty six (N\$15 456). This is attributable to the increasing number of veterans retiring. The beneficiaries of the Improvement Grant (namely the ex-Plan combatant veterans, former Robben Island and Kai-//Ganaxab political prisoners who are either retired or are unemployed) increased by One thousand and eighty eight (1,088).**



- **Three hundred and seventy two (372) veterans were accorded dignified burials.**
- **Two hundred and thirty seven (237) tombstones were erected on the graves of veterans.**
- **Seven hundred and twelve (712) Individual Veterans Projects (IVPs) were fully funded.**
- **Three hundred and twenty nine (329) active beneficiaries were assisted with educational grants. This brings the total number of beneficiaries to one thousand and eighty (1,080) veterans and dependents since inception of this programme in 2011, and**
- **One hundred and sixty four (164) veterans were provided with counselling services.**

**Honorable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee,**

**For the 2018/2019 Financial Year, Veterans Affairs will implement activities under three (3) programmes, namely:**

**Programme 1: Veterans Welfare Development, with a total allocation of Five Hundred and Forty One Million Nine Hundred and Thirty Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$541,930.00);**

**Programme 2: Liberation Struggle Heritage, with an allocation of Two Million and Six Hundred Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$2,600, 000.00); and**

**Programme 3: Coordination and Support Services, with an allocation of Sixty Four Million and Ninety Six Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$64,096,00.00).**

**The total allocation to the three programmes above amounts to Six Hundred and Eight Million and Twenty Six Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$608,626,000.00). Of this total, the largest portion of Six Hundred and Two Million Six Hundred and Twenty Six Thousand (N\$602,626,000.00) is operational, while Six Million Namibia Dollars (N\$6,000,000.00) will cover expenses of a capital nature.**

**For the sake of brevity that we have been implored by the Chairperson to adhere to, I will not go into the details of the various programmes. I kindly request you, Honourable Members to refer my statement, which has been distributed to the Whole House Committee.**

**It is now my honour to request this august House to support the budget request for Vote 31- Veterans Affairs.**

**I thank you.**