



**Republic of Namibia**

**RESPONSES BY THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF HIGHER  
EDUCATION, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION TO THE  
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON QUESTIONS RAISED BY HON.  
MAXIMALLIANT T. KATJIMUNE**

Prepared and Delivered by:

Hon. Dr. Itah Kandjii-Murangi (MP)

Minister of Higher Education, Technology and Innovation

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Hon Speaker,

I rise this afternoon to provide responses to questions raised by Hon Katjimune. Thank you for your continued interest in the sector of higher education.

Hon Members,

1.)

Three decades into our independence, the University Education Culture has taken root in our country. The foundation of institutional governance and leadership laid by the likes of our Speaker here, Prof Peter Katjavivi, Prof Hangula and Prof Tjivikua and others at our public universities, is firm and solid.

That unshaken foundation is a result of targeted collective efforts. And it will always be work in progress. The expectation therefore, is for those who are coming into leadership of these public institutions to improve and perfect that foundation.

As far as I know, there was no collapse in the leadership at NUST. Therefore, it is irresponsible and immature for anyone, particularly one who has walked the corridors of our well run universities to allege collapse in leadership when there was none.

2.) Hon Speaker, Hon Members, I admit that there were a number of issues of concern at NUST, that surfaced in the media some few months back.

As the line minister, I engaged the former Council on those allegations. The former Council informed me that they will engage an independent party to investigate the matter, and that prior to that they need to establish some basic facts regarding the origin of the allegation letters.

You would recall that many of those letters were unsigned. This happened close to the end of the very last extension of the former Council's tenure. And an Interim Council was appointed, to take over where the former Council ledt off.

What is notable since their coming on board, the Council has worked hard to attend to what they deemed critical to look at. I am happy to say, normalcy has returned to NUST.

3.) Hon Speaker and Hon Members the PEGA has lengthy procedures for the appointment of Council. As we speak the appointment of the new NUST Council is ongoing.

I so submit.