



**CONTRIBUTION TO HON. HENNY H. SEIBEB- “NAMIBIAN HALL OF  
FAME FOR CREATIVE AND ATHLETES”**

**HON. EMMA KANTEMA-GAOMAS (MP)**

**12 OCTOBER 2023**

**Honourable Deputy speaker, Honourable members,**

1. I rise today with great respect for the ideas put forward by the Honorable Seibeb to this house on the 12<sup>th</sup> of September 2023. The notion to establish a Namibian Hall of Fame for Creatives and Athletes is indeed a good initiative. The concept of honoring and celebrating our extraordinary talents in the creative and athletic sectors is an endeavor that would undoubtedly contribute to the further enrichment of our cultural heritage and national pride.
2. But I think it's time that we interrogate the conditions that our artists thrive in. I read an article in the Namibian newspaper few weeks ago on high suicide rates among our artists. The returns are very low understandably so because we are a small population perhaps we have to see how do we package the participation of our musicians in the AFCTA.
3. However, I must bring to the attention of this esteemed House that the idea presented in this motion at the Ministry we conceived a similar initiative and had even gone so far as to prepare a comprehensive Concept Note on this subject. This Concept Note was subsequently presented to Cabinet and was approved under the decision number 14<sup>th</sup>/03.09/012.
4. Honorable members, the Concept Note, extensively outlines the rationale, objectives, and proposed implementation strategies for the establishment of sports museum for the Athletes in Namibia. This initiative was centered on the importance of sport in Namibia's history and nation-building. It aimed at establishing a National Sports Museum to celebrate our sporting achievements, inspire Namibians, and document the role of sport in Namibian history. This Museum was

planned to connect us to a network of sports museums across the world and establish a new destination for domestic and international tourists. The objectives of the proposed National Sports Museum include collecting, preserving, and sharing the history of sports in Namibia to educate and inspire young Namibians. It was envisioned as a dynamic space with interactive displays to engage visitors, a source of national pride, and a historical attraction of national and international significance.

5. Honorable members the Concept Note recognizes similar principles outlined in the motion presented by the Honorable Seibeb.
6. Honorable Speaker, I do not mention this to diminish the importance or value of the proposal put forward by Honorable Seibeb. Instead, I believe that this information offers us a unique opportunity to build upon previous work. We can take the concept that was approved by the Cabinet and further refine it based on the insights and recommendations presented by the Honorable Member.
7. Let it be a testament to the continued dedication of this House to the upliftment of our creative and athletic sectors. The fact that there is continued interest in the establishment of a Hall of Fame underscores the importance of this initiative and the need for its implementation. With this in mind, I propose that instead of duplicating efforts, we take advantage of the groundwork already laid out in the approved Concept Note. Let us review, revisit, and refine the approved concept, integrating the valuable insights provided by Honorable members during the contribution and work towards the realization of this important initiative.

8. I hope this information is received in the spirit of collaboration and shared aspiration that it is intended.

I so submit, thank you.