

Hon. Matundu Jeneilly  
Deputy Minister of International Relations & Cooperation

1. Namibia has an obligation to article 21 of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 1961, to facilitate the acquisition of property in accordance with the Namibian law, therefore the Ministry only played the role of facilitator by transmitting the request to purchase from the Mission to the City of Windhoek, as per the operational procedures.
2. I would like to refer the Hon. Member to the Deeds Office, the Ministry does not have that information, nor the mandate to keep such information.
3. a) The United States Government houses a number of agencies in its Missions abroad, such as the USAID, PEPFAR and the Peace Corps, the staff compliment also plays a role in the size of the Mission. In this case the US Embassy has quite a large compliment of both diplomatic and technical staff at its mission.  
b) The Ministry does not know this information, at this point in time.
4. In line with Article 23 of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 1961, "The sending State and the head of the mission shall be exempt from all dues and taxes in respect of the premises of the mission", except for water and electricity, for which they are obligated to pay according to their usage, and the charges of the City of Windhoek.
5. There are no extra costs associated with the move of the US Embassy to the new address, the US Embassy has their own security arrangements and the guarding of their premises is carried out by private security contractors. The US Embassy was never and is not guarded by the Namibian police.
6. All security and surveillance related questions should be referred to the Security Cluster.
7. As I stated earlier, I do not have the authority nor the expertise to speak on security related matters, however I am confident that should there be threats of this nature, our security cluster will be able to detect and deter.