



STATEMENT BY

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SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

DURING THE

MOTIVATION OF THE

BUDGETARY ALLOCATION OF THE ANTI- CORRUPTION

COMMISSION (VOTE 30)

FOR THE 2024 – 2025 FINANCIAL YEAR

FRIDAY, 5 APRIL 2024

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS
WINDHOEK
KHOMAS REGION**

Check Against Delivery

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

Article 94A (3) of the Namibian Constitution read together with section 2(1) of the Anti-Corruption Act, 2003 (Act No 8 of 2003) emphasizes the independence and impartiality of the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC). The autonomy of the ACC requires that it conducts its business and makes its decisions without influence from any institution.

“A corrupt-free Namibia” remains the vision of the Government of the Republic of Namibia. ACC will thus continue to carry out this statutory mandate with the purpose to attain it. The Commission will continue to lead the fight against corruption through effective law enforcement and the implementation of corruption preventative measures for the good of our society.

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

The Anti- Corruption Act, 2003 (Act No. 8 of 2003) mandates the Commission to receive or initiate and investigate allegations of corrupt practices, prevent corruption, educate the public and to raise awareness on the evils of corruption.

On the implementation of the Harambee Prosperity Plan, the Commission contributes to Pillar 1: Effective Governance. The targets for Pillar 1 are effective governance and service delivery

through increased accountability and transparency. ACC contribute to this pillar through the implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy and Action Plan 2021-2025.

Whereas, in the National Development Plan 5, the Commission contributes to Pillar 4 (Good Governance) through its investigations and corruption prevention activities, which results in increased accountability and transparency. This pillar further aims at promoting good governance through effective institutions.

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

During the 2023/2024 Financial Year, the Anti-Corruption Commission was allocated **Eighty-One Million, Six Hundred and Eighty-Eight Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$81,688,000)**, inclusive of **operational and development** budget as per the Mid-Year Term Budget Review of the 2023/2024 Financial Year.

For the 2024/2025 Financial Year, the Anti-Corruption Commission is allocated **One Hundred and Five Million, Nine Hundred and Ninety-two Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$105,992,000)**, of which **Ninety-Five Million, Nine Hundred and Ninety-Two Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$95,992,000)** is allocated for operational activities while **Ten Million Namibia Dollars (N\$10,000,000)**, is allocated for the capital development.

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

The budget allocation of **One Hundred and Five Million, Nine Hundred and Ninety-Two Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$ 105,992,000)** during 2024/2025 Financial Year represents an increase of **29.75%** compared to the 2023/2024 budgetary allocation.

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

The budgetary allocations per Main Divisions of the Commission

1. Main Division 01 – Office of the Director-General

An amount of **Six Million, One Hundred and Twenty-One Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$6,121,000)** is earmarked for this main division. From this amount, **Five Million, Six Hundred and Three Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$5,603,000)** will cover remuneration, cooperation through consultation, exchange of anti-corruption intelligence and relevant information with foreign counterparts, entering into MoUs with relevant corruption fighting institutions and other related expenditures. Whereas an amount of **Five Hundred and Eighteen Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$518,000)**, is set aside to cover the cost of goods and other services.

2. Main Division 02 - Administration

An amount of **Forty-Five Million, Six Hundred and Forty-Four Thousand Namibia (N\$45,644,000)** is budgeted for this main division, inclusive of support and coordinating functions. An amount of **Fifteen Million, Six Hundred and Twenty-Six Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$15,626,000)** is budgeted for remuneration and related expenditure in this main division. On utility services (municipal and, telecommunication charges) for the offices of the Anti-Corruption Commission in Windhoek, Swakopmund, Otjiwarongo, Oshakati and the newly approved regional office based in Rundu that will cater for the Zambezi and the Kavango East and West Regions, an amount of **Four Million and Two Hundred Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$4,200,000)**, has been allocated. Meanwhile, the rental of buildings for the four regional offices will cost **Three Million, Five Hundred Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$3,500,000)** of the main division's allocation.

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

Furthermore, a budgetary allocation of **Ten Million Namibia Dollars (N\$10,000,000)** is earmarked for the Development Budget (Acquisition of capital assets). This amount will cater for the preliminary construction works for the envisaged regional

office to be constructed in the Oshana region. The Capital Project Feasibility Study shows an approved estimate of **Eighty-Eight Million, and Fifty-Eight Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$88,058,000)**. However, ACC is only allocated **Ten Million Namibia Dollars (N\$10,000,000)** during 2024/2025 Financial Year for this project.

3. Main Division 03 – Investigations

An amount of **Thirty-Three Million, Four Hundred and Forty-Six Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$33,446,000)** is earmarked for this main division. **Twenty-Nine Million, Six Hundred and Forty-Six Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$29,646,000)** is budgeted for remuneration and related expenditure under this main division. Since the Commission only has four regional offices, investigating officers are required to travel to the rest of the regions whenever the need arises. An amount of **Three Million, Eight Hundred Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$3,800,000)** is earmarked for contractual obligations in respect of upgrade and maintenance of investigative software licensing and Electronic Case Management System.

This amount also caters for annual statutory subscription and consultancy service fees where specialized expertise and skills are required. It is further crucial that the high-profile

cases are prioritized as they have the potential to undermine the country's commercial and financial integrity, cause huge potential financial loss to the country, and the speedy resolution of these cases is in public interest.

4. Main Division 04 – Public Education and Corruption Prevention

An amount of **Fifteen Million, Seven Hundred and Fourteen Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$15,714,000)** is allocated to this main division. The amount, **Fourteen Million, Three Hundred and Fifty-Six Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$14,356,000)** out of this allocation is set aside for remuneration and related expenditure. As part of public education and corruption prevention initiatives, corruption prevention officials will oversee the implementation of the second National Anti-Corruption Strategy and Action Plan (2021-2025). Corruption Prevention Officers further examine systems and procedures of various OMAS and institutions with a view of eliminating corruption vulnerabilities within specific institutions. Furthermore, they conduct extensive public education and public awareness raising on what constitutes corruption, training on ethics and integrity.

This main division also host the National Anti-Corruption Strategy and Action Plan and the National Anti-Corruption Steering Committee meetings. It also hosts strategy clusters and regional forums meetings as well as coordinating other multi-sectoral stakeholders' consultative meetings with key strategic partners in the fight against corruption. With the above-mentioned in mind, an amount of only **One Million, Three Hundred and Fifty-Eight Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$1,358,000)** of this main division's allocation is earmarked for these activities which is NOT sufficient to cover all the above-mentioned critical activities.

5. Main Division 05 – Security and Risk Management

An amount of **Four Million and Fifty-Five Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$4,055,000)** is allocated to this main division. This amount is inclusive of salaries, daily subsistence and travel allowances as well as the carrying out of protective security measures and security awareness programs.

6. Main Division 06 – Performance Improvement

An amount of **One Million, and Twelve Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$1,012,000)** is budgeted under this main division inclusive of remuneration, subsistence and travel allowances. The objective of this newly created main division is to

coordinate planning, performance improvement and monitoring and evaluation, as well to coordinate organizational occupational health.

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

It is evident from the above presentation that 71% of the total operational budget allocation of the ACC goes towards personnel expenditure, whereas only 29% goes towards the important functions that the Commission must fulfill in terms of its mandate. Furthermore, it is worth mentioning that the ACC plays a cardinal role to investigate corruption and put in place preventative measures to curb corruption.

The total budget allocation of **One Hundred and Five Million, Nine Hundred and Ninety-two Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$105,992,000)** of the ACC represents 0,1% of the total national budget. Therefore, it is believed that the allocation to the Commission could still be improved going forward. We all know how expensive and cumbersome the processes of investigation and corruption prevention can be, and let alone leading the fight and the coordination thereof.

I therefore will appeal that we should look at how best we can allocate more resources to fund ACC for it to execute its mandate efficiently.

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

Allow me to reiterate and emphasize that the impact of corruption is severe if it is allowed to persist. It impacts negatively on investors' confidence, economic growth and development, healthcare, social and economic infrastructure development, to mention but a few.

In addition to the above, I also wish to inform this August House, Namibia has been undergoing the Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group (ESAAMLG) and United Nations Financial Action Task Force (FATF) evaluation. The evaluators strongly recommend that the Namibian Government must increase its funding to ACC and also strengthen capacities and skills of national law enforcement agencies to effectively combat corruption and money laundering. The Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group (ESAAMLG) report of September 2022 further recommended that adequate operational capacity (financial, human and technical resources) be provided to Law Enforcement Agencies, inclusive of;

- Specialized staff to NAMPOL and the ACC to investigate money laundering and to the Office of the Prosecutor-General to prosecute money laundering cases. These resources should include attracting and retaining skilled workforce and expertise especially financial investigators; and
- Specialized continuous training on high end/complex financial investigations and prosecution including parallel financial investigations and effective application of special investigative techniques.

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

Let me express my appreciation to the Minister of Finance, for having improved on the budget allocation of the Anti-Corruption Commission for this year and call on him to continue doing so when needs arise.

As I conclude, I now present to this august House the request of the amount of **One Hundred and Five Million, Nine Hundred and Ninety-Two Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$105,992,000)** as set out in the schedule of the Appropriation Bill for 2024/2025 in respect of Vote 30, the Anti- Corruption Commission to perform its entrusted responsibilities and mandate for the 2024/2025 Financial Year.

I thank you.