



**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**STATEMENT**

**BY**

**HONOURABLE SAARA KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA**

**SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**ON THE**

**MOTIVATION OF THE BUDGETARY ALLOCATION OF THE  
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (VOTE 3)**

**FOR THE 2025 – 2026 FINANCIAL YEAR**

**MONDAY, 28 APRIL 2025, NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**WINDHOEK**

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

I rise to motivate the budgetary allocation for the National Assembly for the 2025/2026 Financial Year.

The National Assembly was allocated a total amount of One Hundred and Ninety-Six Million and Fifty Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$ 196 050 000) for the 2024/2025 Financial Year, of which One Hundred and Eighty-Six Million and Fifty Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$186 050 000) was for operational activities, while Ten Million Namibia Dollars (N\$ 10 000 000) was for Development Expenditure (Construction of guardhouses at the two entrances to Parliament).

In terms of budget execution, an amount of one Hundred and Seventy-Two Million, Seven Hundred and Sixty-Two Thousand and Seventy-Three Namibia Dollars (N\$172 762 073) was spent, representing a 93% expenditure rate.

Whereas provision was made under the capital budget for the construction of the two security guardhouses at the National Assembly, no expenditure could be realized due to implementation delays occasioned by challenges in sourcing technical services to complete technical drawings. As a consequence, that budget provision was suspended and the project has been deferred to the current MTEF (2025/26-2027/28).

The procurement processes is currently underway to enlist the services of a private consultant to come up with the technical drawings.

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, The Operational Budget is clustered under two (2) main Programmes, namely;

**1. Programme 1: Legislative Management (Main Division: 01):**

An amount of Eighteen Million, Eight Hundred and Sixty-Three Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$18 863 000) was allocated to this programme. During the year under review, Parliament participated in meetings of various multilateral parliamentary organizations. Parliament also conducted engagements with representatives of foreign governments and multilateral organizations accredited to Namibia. The importance of these engagements cannot be overemphasised in today's geo-political environment as it is through these engagements that we bring parliamentary diplomacy to some of the pertinent issues around the world, promoting dialogue and peaceful resolution of disputes.

The Namibian Parliament also sent delegations to SADC-PF, PAP, CPA and IPU to promote parliamentary diplomacy and networking with other parliaments.

As part of benefits derived from our membership in international parliamentary organizations, National Assembly signed a cooperation agreement with the

Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) on capacity building for Members of Parliament (primarily for female MPs) and staff.

## **2. Programme 2: Policy Coordination and Support Services:**

This programme provides support to the oversight functions through administrative and technical support to the Members. The program is allocated an amount of One Hundred and Sixty-Seven Million, One hundred and Eighty-Seven Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$167 187 000).

### **Programme 2 is sub-divided into five (5) main divisions:**

During the year under review, the following activities were successfully executed: Committee Services -

✓ Parliamentary Standing Committees embarked on oversight visits to various Offices, Ministries and Agencies and government facilities leading to a number of recommendations on corrective measures and awareness on policy changes and practices that need to be undertaken.

### **Information and Publication Services:**

✓ Public education visits to parliament were undertaken by various schools and institutions, as well as tourists, and educational tours were given to them about the work of the National Assembly;

✓ Live streaming of parliamentary sessions and activities has improved; however, this activity is hampered by the lack of necessary equipment,

particularly mobile live streaming equipment needed for coverage of Standing Committees' oversight activities, in real time.

**Information Technology:**

✓ An assessment was done on IT infrastructure and recommendations were made for short-term and long-term solutions;

**Building Maintenance:**

✓ Continuous maintenance of the Parliament Building was carried out (fixing of the building), this is work in progress that will continue during the next Financial Year;

**Benchmarking initiatives:**

✓ Various capacity and benchmarking initiatives were undertaken to strengthen parliamentary diplomacy, the legislative processes and research; and to gauge best practices.

**Online bill tracking systems:**

✓ Parliament launched an Online bill tracking system which is meant to record progress on bills from the time they are first introduced to when they are enacted into law.

**ICT Policy Framework:**

An information communication technology (ICT) policy framework has also been developed to promote effective governance and efficiency of ICT tools.

**Research:**

Research plays a pivotal role in supporting the National Assembly by providing non-partisan, balanced analysis and technical advice. The Researchers are tasked with supporting eleven (11) Standing Committees.

A review was undertaken of the Standing Rules and Orders of the National Assembly, as well as the Rules for the establishment, functioning and procedures of the Standing Committees. This is the first time since the establishment of our institution that we have embarked on a process to review the rules at such an extensive scale. These two sets of rules were adopted on the 9th and 10th July 2024, respectively.

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

During the year 2023-2024, the National Assembly Strategic Plan 2023-2027 was finalized and launched on the 8th January 2024. The strategic plan set the strategic direction for the National Assembly. The strategic objectives are to promote good governance and enhance service delivery.

**Table office:**

During the period under review, twenty-two (22) Bills were tabled in this House, of which fourteen (14) were passed without amendment and four (4) with

amendments, while one (1) was withdrawn and three (3) lapsed at the end of the last sitting of the previous term.

Additionally, twelve (12) international instruments were tabled and adopted.

Furthermore, six (6) petitions were received from concerned citizens and groups that resulted in extensive public consultations and hearings by relevant standing committees. Pursuant to the democratic culture of our parliamentary system, Members introduced and extensively debated twenty-One (21) Motions on issues of their particular interest.

Similarly, seventy-eight (78) reports of the Auditor-General were tabled and referred to the Public Accounts Committee for further scrutiny, whereas twenty-seven (27) annual and ministerial reports were tabled.

### **Security and Risks Management Services Division:**

This programme ensures the observance, compliance and mitigation of security risks at National Assembly.

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

Having stated our past performance, allow me to present the 2025/2026

budgetary allocation to this August House for consideration.

The National Assembly has been allocated an amount of Three Hundred and Ninety-Eight Million, and Two Hundred and Eight Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$398 208 000)- of which - Three Hundred and Ninety-Three Million, and Two Hundred and Eight Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$393 208 000) is for Operational Budget, while, Five Million Namibia Dollars (N\$5 000 000) is for Development Budget.

National Assembly has clustered its activities under two (2) main programmes.

### **Programme 1: Legislative Management**

An amount of Eighteen Million, Seven Hundred and Five Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$18 705 000) was allocated to this program, representing 5% of the operational budget.

### **Programme 2: Policy Coordination and Support Services**

An amount of Three Hundred and Seventy-Four Million, Five Hundred and Three Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$374 503 000) is allocated to this program, representing 95% of the total budget.

Parliamentary Coordination and Support Services is allocated an amount of Fifty Three Million, one hundred and Fifty Nine Thousand Namibia dollars (N\$ 53 159 000), of which Forty-Eight Million, One Hundred and Fifty-Nine Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$48 159 000), representing 12%, is for the



operational expenditure, while Five Million Namibia dollars (N\$5 000 000) is for the development expenditure.

The allocation under main division 02 is for material and supplies, transport, utilities, and building maintenance.

- Library and Information Services is allocated an amount, Twenty-Two Million, NineHundred and Thirty-Two Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$22 932 000), representing 6% of the operational budget;
- Committee Services is allocated Two Hundred and Eighty Million, Seven Hundred and Seventy Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$280 770 000), representing 71% of the operational budget;
- Office of the Secretary is allocated an amount of Nineteen Million, Three Hundred and Twenty-Five Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$19 325 000), representing 5% of the operational budget and,
- Office of the Leader of the Official Opposition receives Three Million, Three Hundred and Seventeen Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$3 317 000), representing 1% of the operational budget.

**Challenges:**

Honourable Chairperson of the whole house committee;  
Honourable Members;

A number of challenges have been identified that constrain the work of parliament and which will be amongst the priorities in the coming period, including in the future budgets. These include:

- ✓ Staff shortage which compromise the support to members of parliament in the execution of their duties.

- ✓ The increase in the number of Standing Committees from eight to twelve has put a further straight on the already limited research staff. This situation jeopardizes the efficacy of parliamentary functions, including informed debates, legislative scrutiny, and policy development.

- ✓ The aged parliament building infrastructures which results in high maintenance costs.

- ✓ Limited office space compounded by the historical nature of the Parliament building.

- ✓ Limited resources which constraint the endeavours to fully implement and attain the desired outcomes.

As indicated, these issues will be amongst the priorities to be addressed moving forward, to ensure that parliament is appropriately capacitated to discharge its duties and functions.

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

To conclude, I now submit to this August House for approval an amount of Three Hundred and Ninety-Eight Million, Two Hundred and Eight Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$ 398 208 000) for Vote 03, National Assembly, to meet its constitutional responsibilities and mandate.

**I thank you.**