



ADDRESS BY HONOURABLE UTONI NUJOMA

MINISTER OF JUSTICE

**MOTIVATION OF THE MAGISTRATES
AMENDMENT BILL, 2013**

I rise to motivate the Magistrates Amendment Bill which I introduced in Parliament on 7 November 2013.

Honourable Speaker

Honourable Members of Parliament

1. It has come to the fore that the Magistrates Act, 2003 that governs the district and regional court magistrates has some shortcomings rendering the said Act, not sufficient to sustain an improved, fair and expeditious delivery of justice to general public. It is on this background that in order to properly manage the magistracy in a professional and efficient manner to enhance the administration of justice in Namibia, certain amendments needs to be introduced to the current Act.

2. I have attached an explanatory memorandum that would give more detail this document to encourage debate and better understanding and for this reason I will cover some the items in the said amendment Bill.

Honourable Speaker

Honourable Members of Parliament

3. The amendment to section 1 is justified in that it defines certain terms in the Act so as to make it clear to the readers and to take away confusions as to the meaning of each of terms term.

4. The name 'Magistrates' and Judges is redundant and the amendment seek to substitute the phrase 'Judges and Magistrates' Association' with the term 'association'. The amendment further makes provision for the recognition of the said association by the Magistrates Commission Recognition.

