



## SECOND SPECIAL SITTING, FIFTH NATIONAL COUNCIL



### MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

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Wednesday, April 27, 2016

(09:30 - 13:00)

No. 8 – 2016

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#### **The Council met pursuant to adjournment.**

- 1.0 The Vice-Chairperson took the Chair.
- 2.0 The Vice-Chairperson read the Prayer and Affirmation.
- 3.0 DEBATE ON THIRD READING

#### ORDER READ

Debate on Third Reading – *Appropriation Bill* [B.1 – 2016]

The Vice-Chairperson put the question: That the Bill be read a Third Time.

Agreed to.

The Vice-Chairperson then called upon the Secretary to read the Bill a Third Time.

The Secretary then read the Bill a Third Time.

The Bill was passed **without amendments.**

#### 4.0. STATEMENT BY THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Hon. Bernard Songa Sibatani, Vice-Chairperson of the National Council made a Statement to the House at the closing of the National Council Special Session on 27 April 2016. The Statement is reproduced verbatim hereunder.

## **“Honourable Members**

Our presence here is testimony to our commitment to serve the Namibian people; many of us travelled directly from the coast to Windhoek to deal with the Appropriation Bill to ensure that it is passed within the framework of our Constitution and thereby ensuring that monies are distributed to the Offices, Ministries and Agencies in good time. We have accomplished that task we set for ourselves within record time of approximately eleven hours uninterruptedly!

Yesterday, I have witnessed with great satisfaction the passionate participation of those who took the floor to contribute to the various votes under discussion. I am proud to say that all Honourable Members who attended yesterday’s sitting made relevant contributions on the specific votes. Let me add that I was very delighted of the fact that each and every Member present made an input during the discussions on the votes. It was 100% participation from all Members!

You have, through your robust interventions, highlighted important challenges that the different Ministries should directly address in order to fight poverty in our regions and constituencies; and thereby implement the Harambee Prosperity Plan (HPP). You have correctly and justly pointed out that poverty and horrible conditions under which some of our people live are an insult to the dignity of our people. You have also stated that you are committed to ensuring the success of the HPP by declaring 2016 as the year of implementation for Government developmental programmes and projects. Therefore, as the Coordinator of National Council Standing Committees, I am eager to see the Standing Committees exercising oversight over the programmes and projects that are supposed to be implemented during this financial year 2016/2017.

## **Honourable Members,**

Let me now use this occasion to express our sincere gratitude towards the National Council Secretariat under the leadership of the Secretary for ensuring that this Special Session was successfully organised at short notice.

**Honourable Members,**

Finally, please remember that the House will resume business on Monday, 09 May 2016 in accordance with our Annual Calendar to deal with other bills that the National Assembly referred to the Council.

I wish you all a safe journey to your respective regions and constituencies. Let us be considerate of other road users and let us respect the applicable laws pertaining to traffic.

***I thank you”.***

- 5.0 On the motion of Hon. Boois, seconded by Hon. Nicanor, the Council was adjourned at 09:50 until 09 May 2016.

*E. Mkusa*  
*Secretary to the National Council*

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