

REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA



**STATE OF THE REGION ADDRESS BY
HON. LAWRENCE ALUFEA SAMPOFU,
GOVERNOR OF THE ZAMBEZI REGION**

31 MAY 2018

KATIMA MULILO

- **Hon. Beaven Munali, The Chairperson of Zambezi Regional Council,**
- **Hon. Bernard Sibalatani (MP), the Deputy Chairperson of National Council,**
- **All Honourable Regional and Local Councilors present here today,**
- **Madam Regina Ndopu-Lubinda, Chief Regional Officer: ZRC**
- **All invited guests**
- **Members of the media**
- **Ladies and gentlemen.**

It is a great honor and privilege for me to once again deliver this State of Region Address to report back to the community of Zambezi of what we have done in the past financial year. As we are all aware, the previous financial year has not been a favourable one due to economic pressure around the globe.

Amidst this financial crunch, Zambezi Region has done well in implementing projects and rolling out service delivery to our people with the limited human, financial and materiel resources at our disposal.

This is the year of reckoning. This is the year when our actions as Government are going to be judged as good or bad, therefore, we seriously need to roll up our sleeves and pull up our socks and go down to serious business of service delivery to our people.

Richard Nchabi Regional Health Training Centre is currently enrolled with 38 second year students and 19 first year students (Enrolled Nurses). The region also has earmarked for training of medical interns. One student was sent to Zambia for ophthalmology (eye specialist). The Ministry of Education also has sent five of its employees to further their studies. This will help in delivering good services to the public, as these newly acquired skills will enable them to perform their tasks better.

Over the years we have seen slight improvements into our health system in the region because the Ministry is really trying hard to bring their services closer to the people. With the above, we take cognizant of the Kaenda Primary health care clinic near completion. This clinic will serve the community surrounding this clinic who have been travelling longer distances seeking for medical assistance.

The Ministry of Agriculture, water and Forestry helped farmers through the **Dry Land Crop Production Programme (DCPP)** by:

- **Subsidizing ploughing services:** 1073 farmers benefited through ploughing, ripping and planting services.
- **Subsidization of improved seeds:** at amount of N\$ 600 000 was allocated in this regard. 3106 members benefited from this programme.
- **Subsidized fertilizer provision:** 75 members benefited from this scheme.
- **Youth and Woman Empowerment Scheme:** youth and woman participated in the provision of weeding services to farmers. 132 members benefited.

There were also about 231 of small scale horticulture farmers who were assisted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry.

With regards to infrastructural development, Katima and Liselo Green Scheme activities are underway. The total of 650 hectares out of 1980 hectares has been de-bushed so far. Fencing of the farm is divided into two parts, Katima Farm fencing is at 40% while Liselo Farm is at 10%.

The Ministry of Education constructed two (2) classrooms and a storeroom at Mpukano Junior Primary School. There were seven (7) classrooms which were renovated at Muzii Combined School and another seven (7) classrooms were renovated at Sesheke Secondary School after the roof for the classroom was blown out by the wind. All this work was done in the previous Financial Year (2017/2018).

In this current Financial Year (2018/2019), the Ministry of Education plans to construct 19 classrooms at various schools in the region and renovate nine (9) classrooms. Luhonono and Ngoro Memorial hostels are still under construction though we are experiencing a delay at Luhonono due to floods.

Two constituency offices for Kabbe South and Linyanti Constituencies are currently under construction and planned for completion this financial year. The Regional Council Office Park has been completed and staff members will move to their new offices as soon as logistics are completed. The Rural Development Center at Masokotwani is also under way, however the hall, fence and the guard room is done. Isize-Luhonono Road. Section A of the road from Namalubi to Isize continued well until it was affected by rain season. Roads Authority is busy putting high culverts

and raising the road where necessary. Section B is from Isize to Luhonono where a bridge will be built but that section will only commence once section is completed.

With our meager resources, we strive to meet the needs of our uniformed men and woman of the Namibian Police Force by providing good working environment for them. In this regard, the construction of Sangwali C-Class Police Station and Barracks have been completed and waiting to be inaugurated. However, the water tank is still not installed since the supplier who was awarded with the tender to put up the water tank failed to complete the work, as a result, a new supplier was contracted and he is busy with assembling of the water stand for the tank.

This facility will serve the community of Sangwali area and esteemed visitors in that area. It will operate as a fully-fledged Police Station with a Case Register.

The construction of Katima Mulilo Police Barracks is almost completed, only minor works is being done. The construction at Kongola Fort is also nearing completion.

There were Police Stations which were earmarked to be constructed but due to financial constraints, these projects were put on hold until when the funds will be available. These projects are:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. Chinchimane Police Station | C- class |
| 2. Kamenga Police Post
(area is fenced) | Special Field Force |
| 3. Bukalo Police Station | C-class |
| 4. Muyako Police Post | Special Field Force |
| 5. Sibbinda Police Station | C-class |
| 6. Greenwell Matongo Police Station | A-class (area is fenced). |

The Police in Zambezi will continue to ensure that the prevention of crime, investigation of offences and alleged offences, protecting the lives and properties of the inhabitants of Namibia as well as maintain law and order at all levels through the daily activities.

There is also one project that is running under the Ministry of Industrialization, Trade and SME Development which is Manyeha Crocodile and Textile Farming. The project is at its third and final phase despite the limited resources.

Rural Services

- The Regional Council continues to support our communities through community projects such as microfinance, constituency development funds, cash/food for work, food security, rural employment scheme and support to poor rural farmers projects. These small projects are aimed at promoting entrepreneurship, self-employment and community development. These projects are usually advertised in order to attract better projects for support. An amount of N\$1, 3 million was provided to support these rural services projects.

Inland fisheries Activities in Zambezi region.

The Directorate of Operations based in Zambezi region responsible for controlling of Inland fisheries activities conducted two hundred and thirty seven (237) land patrols in Zambezi region at various areas, of which seven (7) missions were roadblocks which were conducted jointly with Nampol covering a distance of 58171 km and also conducted twenty (20) river patrols covering a distance of 1028 km.

Fisheries inspectors issued a total of forty two (42) fines, of which;

- (a) Fourteen (14) were issued for failure to produce fishing license,
- (b) Eight (8) were issued for bashing (ku dumpula),
- (c) Two (2) were issued for engaging in fishing without being the holder of the fishing license,
- (d) One (1) for failure to register in the region where a gill net is intended to be used, and
- (e) One (1) was issued for drag netting, one (1) was issued for fishing during closed season, and fifteen (15) were issued for contravening the Act namely fishing during close fishing season.

During closed fishing season, inspectors experienced more illegal fishing on Zambezi river, Chobe river, Lake Liambezi, Kwando river, Linyanti river and other river channel at the eastern flood plain. More people engaged themselves in selling fish door to door at evenings and night time, and such tendency hampers the purpose of closed fishing season to allow fish to recover as it has been severely overfished over the past years.

Lusese and Ngoma Health Centres upgrading near completion, a maternity waiting shelter project at tender level which will see our pregnant mothers well taken care of. Budget allocation was done (MTEF) for upgrading of the hospital to a Regional Hospital. Staff houses (modular) were constructed at Chetto, Sesheke, Mbalasinte, Itomba and Batubaja. Waiting rooms and extra consulting rooms were added to Chetto, Mbalasinte and Itomba. Outreach points were also constructed at Cowboy and Kongola.

Most of our flood prone areas are cut from accessing most services that are needed, especially health service. Three of our roads were/are temporarily closed due to the fact that they were cut by the floods. All service providers in those areas are urged to work extra harder to reach the masses in the flooded areas.

On the part of Social progression, four veteran houses were built and completed to honour the bravery they showed during the liberation struggle to liberate our motherland from the yoke of oppression. 21 newly registered veterans received their once off gratuity during the 2017/2018 financial year to assist them to integrate into the Namibian society as well as to improve their livelihood.

RURAL SANITATION

The Regional Council provided sanitation to the citizens of the region through Rural Sanitation Programme in line with the targets of the Harambee Prosperity Plan. An amount of N\$2, 307,692.00 was spent on the provision of 180 VIP toilets which were distributed to beneficiaries in rural areas. These facilities are aimed at reducing open defecations; improve the human health and environmental protection. Therefore 180 beneficiaries received their VIP toilets which are used on average by people in a household.

The following schools received ablution blocks for sanitation

- Isuswa combined school
- Makolonga combined school
- Masokotwane combined school
- Lyanshulu combined school
- Sesheke primary school
- Zilitene primary school
- Kwenya primary school
- Mpukano primary school

Our UNAM Katima Mulilo Campus and Zambezi Vocational Training Centre continue to grow from strength to strength. We have seen over the years that their enrolment has increased tremendously. I call upon young people to register/study through these institutions for the betterment of their lives and contribute to the economic advancement of the Region.

People of Zambezi Region, let us embrace one another for the development of our Great Zambezi Region and the country as a whole. Let us once again recommit to good service delivery to our people in rural areas for them to feel part of the Namibian House where no one must feel left out. It is our solemn duty to make sure that we deliver wherever we may find ourselves.

In as much as we have successes that have been recorded, we do have some challenges in the region. There is daunted a high rate of unemployment amongst our youths who have turned or exposed to alcohol and drug abuse. Other challenges such as high scourge of HIV/AIDS pouching and house breaking are still on the rise in the Zambezi Region.

I call upon all residents of this region to refrain from any activities which will put their lives in danger and concentrate more on projects which will create employment for them and other people within the community they live in.

ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT

We are appealing to our youth and women to create SME's for development, create employment and eradicate poverty in accordance with Harambee Prosperity Plan. The work at Katima Green Scheme is progressing where, when started, will create more employment.

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

We are going to embark upon construction of one school in Katima Mulilo, classrooms to avoid congestion of learners, Schuckmansburg and Ndoro hostels, upgrading of Mpacha Airport, provision of electricity (Kapani, Samudono and Sauzuo) and Rural Water Supply will drill seven (07) boreholes to be funded by Namibia Water & Sanitation (NAWASA).

Road Infrastructure

Izimwe-Nakabolelwa-Kasika and Namalubi-Isizi-Luhonono roads are under construction. The gravel road for Masokotwani-Machita is under feasibility study

SOCIAL PROGRESSION

The Katima Mulilo Town Council and Bukalo Village Council will continue servicing land for residential purposes and build houses through PPP's. The Ministry of Urban & Rural Development in consultation with Town and Village Councils and National Housing Enterprise (NHE) have to put up modalities to make available of houses under Mass Housing to people so that these houses do not become white elephants. The provision of housing remains a priority for our communities.

Agriculture extension services will be provided through subsidised tractor services, subsidized seeds and promotion of conservation agriculture and increase food security.

There will be construction of services infrastructure at Resettlement Centres of Sibbinda, Ngoma, Chinchimane and Kongola, to be developed into village Councils in future so

that we stop migration of people from rural areas to Katima Mulilo.

I would like to emphasize to the residents of this region that, we must stay focused to the development of our region. It is time now to consult, plan, discuss and coordinate amongst ourselves on how we can achieve our development. I appeal to our residents to shame and condemn land grabbing in our towns, land disputes, corruption and tribalism.

We are wasting too much time on petty issues than concentrating on national challenges like, unemployment, poverty, crime and the scourge of HIV/AIDS which are very high in our Region. Our Health facilities will continue providing clinical services to our people to have a health nation. Our region is part of the National Strategic Plans of the Ministry of Health and Social Services envisaging that by 2020 90 – 90 -90, that 90% of our people will know their status; 90% of people who know their status are treated for HIV and 90% of people who know their status will know their viral load.

When we talk about our own development, we must put away our political and tribal differences and seriously be patriotic for our own benefits and generations to come.

In fighting corruption, we should continuously strive for improvement of audit outcomes in Regional Council and Local Authority monitoring mechanisms.

As I conclude, allow me to quote the remarks of Nelson Mandela who said “The past is our lesson, the present our gift, the future our motivation.”

The Zambezi Region’s growth and wellbeing is in good capable hands that will continue to dedicate the entire being to ensure that every citizen of the Great Zambezi Region has that better opportunities and life they want to deserve.

I thank you