

APPENDIX C

NEFF irked by campaign material removal

■ Sawi Hausiku

RUNDU – The Namibian Economic Freedom Fighters (NEFF) have voiced dissatisfaction with the Rundu Town Council for removing their campaign posters from street light poles around the town.

NEFF spokesperson Teresia Hamurenge told *Nampa* on Monday that all posters belonging to NEFF, the Landless People's Movement and the Popular Democratic Movement were removed because the parties have not paid council fees.

"The only posters that were not removed belong to the Independent Patriots for Change (IPC) and Swapo. We have to, apparently, pay N\$159 per pole if we want to put posters on the poles," she said. She stated that the town council should

have informed the political parties about the required payment prior to removing the posters.

She said they had invested a lot of money in the posters.

"If we had been informed earlier, like through a public notice, we would have paid. Many towns, such as Windhoek, don't charge us or remove posters," she added.

She said her party had requested to see the gazetted tariffs, but claimed the council had not provided it.

In response, Rundu Town Council CEO Olavi Nathanael said advertising space on poles is a paid service, and political parties are not excluded from this.

He added that political parties, or any other interested party, must first apply if they wish to use the poles for advertising.



Disappointed... NEFF spokesperson Teresia Hamurenge. Photo: Nampa

"You don't just put things up without our consent. Everybody else applies, and then we give you an invoice," he noted.

He said Swapo and IPC paid to display their posters.

"Everyone, including political parties wishing to do outdoor advertising, whether through free-standing units or poles, pays the necessary charges as per gazetted tariffs," he remarked. -*Nampa*

PDM promises Kavango transformation

■ John Muyamba

RUNDU – Popular Democratic Movement (PDM) leader and presidential hopeful McHenry Venaani has promised to change the fate of Kavango inhabitants once elected into power.

He said no life will be lost due to crocodile attacks while people fetch water.

He promised that he would improve the water infrastructure in the two regions.

"Brothers and sisters, the government of the day has failed us. They have failed us on water. They have failed us in sanitation. They have failed us in healthcare. And they will continue to fail us, unless we stand together, united for change. This election is not about liking the leaders. It's about demanding respect as a citizen who enters a social contract with your government. It's about demanding service. It's about ensuring that the government works for the people," he said during PDM's rally at the Dr Romanus Kampungu sports field at Rundu.

Venaani said Rundu and various Kavango East and Kavango West villages that are a stone's throw away from the Kavango River should not suffer from a lack of potable drinking water.

"It is a travesty that areas such as Ndama, Sunshine and Sauyemwa are facing critical water shortages. This is a crisis that was already predicted to happen way back in 2020. Water, my friends, is not a luxury. It is a basic human right, enshrined in our Constitution. Yet, many in this community still struggle to access it. Water shortages here are not just an inconvenience. They are a matter of survival," he said.

He seemingly then took a jibe at the ruling party.

"They are running around with shirts and food. They are running around with everything, but why are they not running around about development? We want change. We want jobs. We want better schools and roads, as well as better sanitation. But we are getting t-shirts and drought relief," he said.

The PDM plans to ensure that every family has access to proper sanitation in their communities through their 'One Family, One Toilet' initiative.

He said they will reduce the spread of diseases, ease the burden on the healthcare system, and restore dignity to people.

"This is not just an election promise. It is a commitment to the health and well-being of every Namibian. Furthermore, we cannot overlook the intolerable burden on our healthcare system, especially in these regions, when discussing healthcare. Namibia's healthcare system is in danger of failing," he stated.

-*jmuyamba@nepc.com.na*



Mbumba preaches Swapo unity

■ Sawi Hausiku

INKURENKURU – President Nangolo Mbumba has called on Swapo supporters to remain united and strong in numbers.

He asserted that they are too numerous to be defeated by a minority.

He made the call while addressing Swapo supporters and sympathisers at a Swapo star rally at Mupini soccer field in Kavango West on Saturday. "It is our duty to unite for this common cause, and ensure that Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah and the Swapo Party emerge victorious on the 27 November elections. Let us ensure that Namibia remains in safe hands under a leader we trust – a leader who is mature, and a leader who has a respected pedigree locally, regionally, continentally and internationally," he said.

He highlighted that under the leadership of astute, tried and tested individuals, supported by committed cadres, Swapo has built a truly united Namibian house, where no Namibian feels left out.

"As the Swapo-led government, we remain committed to improving the living standards of the citizens of the Kavango West region by focusing on infrastructure, education, healthcare and economic opportunities. Despite being a young region, it has made significant progress," he stated.

He acknowledged the need for access to clean water in rural areas.

Heremarked that the government recognises access to safe drinking water as a basic human right, and an absolute necessity for every Namibian citizen.

"To minimise human-animal conflict, we have drilled 27 new boreholes across all constituencies, and modernised two traditional wells in



Unity... President Nangolo Mbumba. Photo: Nampa

the Mpungu constituency," he noted.

He said in order to promote sports and unity in Kavango West, and empower the youth, the construction of a soccer field, three multi-purpose courts, and other facilities is underway.

Mbumba urged citizens to rise early on election day to cast their votes.

He emphasised that their votes will enable the Swapo Party to continue

delivering much-needed development in Mupini and the wider Kavango regions.

Also speaking at the event, Swapo coordinator for the Kavango West region Elna Diparo assured the President that the region stands firmly behind the party's presidential candidate, Nandi-Ndaitwah.

She said they will not be easily swayed by opposition parties.

-*Nampa*

INVITATION TO PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING

Notice is hereby given to all **Interested & Affected Parties** (I&APs) that an application will be made to the Environmental Commissioner in terms of Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) and the Environmental Assessment Regulations (Government Notice No. 30 of 6 February 2012) for the following intended activity:

Project Description: Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIA) and development of the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) for the subdivision and establishment of two townships on Portions A and B on Farm Divundu Townlands No: 1462

Project Location: Divundu, Kavango East Region, Namibia

Proponent: Divundu Village Council

Environmental Consultant: Samson Mulonga

Public Participation Meeting:

Venue:	Divundu Village Council Offices
Date:	22 nd November 2024
Time:	09H00

Should you wish to register as an Interested & Affected Party and receive the ESIA documents, please contact CNM Environmental Consultants at **+264-81-227-4867** or alternatively, at **mulongas@gmail.com**.

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PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NOTICE

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR PROPOSED KING KAULUMA-OMUTSEGWONIME RURAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME, OSHIKOTO REGION (P-NA-E00-005)

Notice is hereby given to all Interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) that an application will be made to the Environmental Commissioner in terms of Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) and its Regulations (2012) for the following intended activity.

Project Name: King Kauluma-Omutsegwonime Rural Water Supply Scheme

Project Location: King Kauluma-Omutsegwonime, Oshikoto Region

Project Description: The development of the rural water supply scheme along the B1 Road section between Omutsegwonime and King Kauluma village in Oshikoto Region. The project will entail the construction of pipelines, pump stations, elevated tanks and manifolds.

Proponent: Ministry of Agriculture, Water & Land Reform (AfDB Funded project)

Environmental Consultant: Matrix Consulting Services

Matrix Consulting Services has been appointed by MAWL to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Management Plan for the proposed development.

All I&APs are encouraged to register and raise concerns or provide comments and opinions by attending the meeting or via email. All I&APs will be provided with a Background Information Document (BID) comprising detailed information for the intended activity and will be informed of the public participation process to be followed. Should you wish to register as an I&AP and receive a BID,

Please contact the Matrix Consulting Services office.
Contact, at Tel: (+264-61) 224197,
E-Mail: environment@matrixconsultingcc.com

Public Meeting Schedule:

Place	Date	Time
Omutsegwonime (Etala Lyo kindergarten (Lyokinda)	30 Nov 2024	10h00
King Kauluma (Oshiti shaHaihonya)	30 Nov 2024	14h30

DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS IS 10 DECEMBER 2024

Unpacking Khadijah Mouton’s Style



Kadijah Mouton

• ANNE HAMBUDA

STEPPING into Khadija Mouton’s world of style is like entering an art gallery where each outfit is a piece of expressive artwork. The ‘Lekker’ hitmaker is a poet, copywriter, musician, actress, stylist and mother whose artistry spills over into every corner of her life – particularly her wardrobe. Currently, she’s captivating audiences both on and off-screen, from starring in the much-loved and recently premiered local film ‘Ompata: The Beginning’s End’ to rocking an all-pink, Barbie-esque blazer and pencil skirt ensemble paired with chunky heels to the premiere. Khadijah’s look is an eclectic mix of contradictions, embodying the fierce duality of her personality. She can go from soft, hyper-feminine looks to loose-fitting, masculine styles with ease. This is because her style is fluid, personal and rooted in her inner world. She’s a Pisces, she says: “I am two fish. Yin and yang. Black and white. Light and dark. Hot and cold. Shy and bold”. Her captivating and unique style strongly reflects that balance and duality. For Mouton, fashion is a kind of performance art. “I have a friend who says I don’t wear

outfits, I wear costumes. And I think that’s kind of true,” she says. “When I get dressed, it’s like a character for me. I like to embody the personality of what I’m wearing.” This helps her channel different versions of herself and communicate without words – something she says she needs as a shy person. “What I can’t say with words, I say with my clothes,” she says. At first glance, Mouton’s closet is an art collection of sorts. Think long coats in bold colours, statement hats that add mystery, oversized sunglasses that feel like an ode to 90s hip-hop, as well as dainty jewellery that brings a delicate finish to her most powerful outfits. “I just like cool stuff. I like when people dress cool,” she says. She says that as she’s matured, so has her style. “You wouldn’t catch me wearing a pink wig today, but a few years ago, I was very colourful and loud. I think I was trying to make a statement about my place in the industry.” These days she favours more muted tones like greys, browns and blacks that feel grounded and calm. “Right now, I love comfort. That’s the character I’m playing in the movie of my

life,” Mouton says. Her accessories are also essential to her style identity. Hats and caps, in particular, are her signature pieces. “I feel so complete when my head is covered,” she shares, explaining that it gives her a way to “hide a little.” When asked about trends she’ll be steering clear of as we head into the summer, she’s quick to dismiss Kanye West’s chunky boots. “I just can’t get into them,” she says. But some designs she’ll definitely be leaning into are those of House of Poulton, Sirenga and Peacemakers, all of which she lauds for their creativity and ability to bring fashion to life. Mouton’s advice to anyone who wants to communicate through the clothes they drape on their bodies? Understand that fashion is internal. “A lot of times, it’s not what you wear; it’s who is wearing it. My clothing choices come from the inside, from how I’m feeling. And if I’m not feeling so good, what I’m wearing makes me feel better.”

* Anne Hambuda is a poet, writer, and social commentator. Follow her online or email her at annehambuda@gmail.com for more.

All set for the inaugural 065 Kiddies Festival

• PINEHAS NAKAZIKO

ALL roads will lead to Ongwediva Mayor’s Park on 29 and 30 November, for the inaugural 065 Kiddies Festival. The festival aims to bring children together for a fun experience. Event organiser Martha Niilonga says she was motivated to create the festival after witnessing numerous festivals in the north, some of which have a designated area for children. “Kids become frustrated and frown because they are unable to have unlimited fun and freedom all day, because the time spent at such festivals is split between the child and the adult,” says Niilonga. She adds that the upcoming festival will be uniquely tailored to children “to put a smile on their faces”. “The event will be child-friendly, with no performances to distract the children. There are, however, a lot of fun games and activities planned, which you will

discover once you set foot on the ground,” she says. To contribute to the local community and economy, Niilonga says they have carefully selected local small and medium enterprises to showcase their products and services that are specifically beneficial to children. “Exhibitions such as toys, candy corners, burger corners, books, games, children’s clothing, and so on will undoubtedly see the light,” says Niilonga. She says the festival will also include a ‘Love Box’, where visitors can donate used items such as old clothes and blankets. “The collected items will be donated as Christmas hampers to orphanages at Ongwediva and Oshakati. “The festival provides a fun way to bond with children and expands support through the ‘Love Box’ initiative, creating a holistic approach to making them feel loved and cared for in society.” Niilonga says to encourage education and learning, the planned children’s reading corner is free of charge, and kids are free to read and learn from each other for as long as they want throughout the day. “There are many books to choose from, and publishers have donated some educational books that regular visitors to the reading corner can win,” says Niilonga.



FUN FOR THE KIDDIES ... Martha Niilonga, alongside other stakeholders, will host the inaugural 065 Kiddies Festival at Ongwediva at the end of this month.

Adriano champions Namibian creativity at the Sotigui awards

• UNWRAP.ONLINE

AS the ninth edition of the Sotigui Awards approaches, Namibian creative Adriano Visagie prepares to host the prestigious event for the fifth time. The awards acknowledge cinema production in Africa and beyond. Reflecting on the growth of the awards, he expresses excitement about the opportunities this year holds. “The Sotigui Awards continue to grow on a year-by-year basis,” he says. “Alongside a new co-host, I hope to highlight how far Namibia has come in the cinema industry.” This year, the spotlight shines on local talent, particularly young actor Alejandro Cooper who has been nominated for his role in ‘Lukas’ directed by Philippe Talavera.

Visage finds it heartwarming to see local productions gaining recognition both nationally and globally. “It’s wonderful to witness our short films taking centre stage,” he adds. He recently celebrated his win as social media influencer of the year at the Simply You Magazine Awards, an honour he describes as a humbling experience. “This award represents the hard work that goes into creating the content on my social media platforms,” he says. Visagie has been versatile, exploring new avenues in content creation. He hopes to expand his



Adriano Visagie

work with more Namibian talent, particularly focusing on behind-the-scenes contributions that often go unnoticed. “Teamwork always makes the dream work,” he says, viewing the Namibian creative industry as a collaborative effort. He highlights the progress made over the past decade, noting the increasing recognition of creatives through events like the Sotigui Awards. “We’ve come a long way, and the acknowledgment of our work shows our advancement,” he says. Visagie’s advice to aspiring creatives is straight-

forward yet impactful: “Know who you are!” He emphasises the importance of identity in shaping one’s path in the industry. “Be professional; brands are always watching your work. Building genuine relationships and a strong personal brand are essential, as these can open doors long before one enters a room,” he says. The ninth edition of the Sotigui Awards will take place at Canal Olympia in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, on November 16, showcasing the talent emerging from Namibia and the broader African cinema landscape.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NOTICE
ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR PROPOSED KING KAULUMA-OMUTSEGWONIME RURAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME, OSHIKOTO REGION (P-NA-EOO-005)

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Proponent: Ministry of Agriculture, Water & Land Reform (AfDB Funded project)
Environmental Consultant: Matrix Consulting Services

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Omutsegwonime (Etala Lyo kindergarten (Lyokinda))	30 Nov 2024	10h00
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DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS IS 10 DECEMBER 2024

Prison term set aside in drugs case

• WERNER MENGES

A //KHARAS region farm-worker who was sentenced to a prison term of 18 months after he admitted that he possessed cannabis and mandrax valued at N\$8 500 has won an appeal against his sentence.

The magistrate who sentenced Donovan Kooper in the Bethanie Magistrate’s Court in February this year did not carefully consider Kooper’s personal circumstances, judge Philanda Christiaan said in an appeal judgement delivered in the Windhoek High Court on Monday.

“In my view, the court over-emphasised the seriousness and prevalence of the crime at the peril of [Kooper’s] personal circumstances,” Christiaan remarked.

“To impose an effective 18 months’ imprisonment on a first-time offender who tendered a plea of guilty and who was gainfully employed is in my view too harsh. The court indeed paid lip service to the consideration of mercy or leniency,” the judge added.

Kooper admitted guilt on a charge of possession of prohibited dependence-producing substances in February this year.

He admitted that he had 142 grams of cannabis, valued at N\$1 420 and 59 mandrax tablets containing the prohibited substance methaqualone and valued at N\$7 080, in his possession at Bethanie in the //Kharas region on 5 January 2022.

Following his arrest, Kooper spent five months in police custody before he was released on bail.

Magistrate Mulonda Masuku sentenced him to 18 months’ imprisonment, without an option to pay a fine and with no part of the sentence suspended, after Kooper admitted guilt on the charge.

After defence lawyer Percy McNally informed the magistrate that Kooper had the cannabis and mandrax tablets in his possession for his own use, Masuku commented that in his view, Kooper needed to be rehabilitated from his drug addiction.

McNally also informed the court that Kooper, then 31 years old, was employed as a goatherd and is the father of four children.

In the appeal judgement, Christiaan concluded that the sentence of 18 months’ imprisonment was excessive.

She set aside the sentence and replaced it with a fine of N\$3 000 or six months’ imprisonment, with the new sentence suspended for a period of five years on condition that Kooper is not convicted of possession of a prohibited dependence-producing substance during the period of suspension.

Christiaan also ordered that Kooper should be released from custody without delay, unless he is lawfully detained on other charges.

Judge Herman January agreed with Christiaan’s decision.



Photo: Contributed

PATROL ... One of Namibia’s fisheries patrol vessels at the port of Walvis Bay.

Naval base proposed for Kunene River

• ADAM HARTMAN

A PARLIAMENTARY standing committee has proposed the creation of a naval base at the Kunene River.

The National Council standing committee on agriculture, environment and natural resources says this is to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.

In a report released by the committee and signed by chairperson Melania Ndjago, the members say they have engaged with stakeholders to understand issues in the area.

This proposal follows concerns raised in the report issued last month by the committee on its oversight visit to investigate the status of Namibia’s fishing resources.

The report highlights Namibia’s vulnerabilities to IUU fishing activities and systemic challenges within the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources.

The oversight visit included inspections at the ministry’s offices at Walvis Bay and Lüderitz, as well as harbours and patrol vessels used for monitoring Namibian waters.

The establishment of a naval base at the Kunene River is viewed as essential for improving response times and surveillance along Namibia’s northern waters.

Currently, patrol resources are stationed at Walvis Bay, which is too distant to act swiftly in emergencies.

“Illegal fishing vessels can operate undetected for extended periods because our patrols are limited by distance and outdated equipment,” the report says.

It says a Kunene base, equipped with helicopters, drones and modern patrol vessels, could reduce response times from up to a day to as little as two hours.

The report highlights the shortage of personnel within the ministry.

It said the ministry has only 174 fisheries inspectors and navigation officers employed nationwide. They also discovered that fisheries ministry’s equipment is strained.

It says only one of two patrol aircraft is operational and that two patrol vessels, though well-maintained, are constrained by high opera-

tional costs.

Additionally, all patrol vehicles at Walvis Bay were found to be non-operational.

Illegal activities including mussel harvesting and large-scale fish poaching remain rampant along the coast. These gaps have allowed offenders to exploit Namibia’s resources freely, ministry officials have admitted.

Namibia’s fishing industry, the country’s second-largest foreign currency earner after mining, contributes 4,6% to its gross domestic product and provides employment for approximately 16 000 Namibians.

To combat these challenges, the committee recommended increased funding from the Ministry of Finance and Public Enterprises to support surveillance operations.

Investment in helicopters, drones, patrol vehicles and improved internet connectivity were deemed critical for effective monitoring.

“Without a unified approach, we will continue to lose valuable resources to IUU fishing and mismanagement,” the committee warns.

Govt yet to announce green scheme bid winners

• MATTHEW PALATA

THE Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform is yet to announce the winner of the tender to manage the Ndonga Linena green scheme.

Bids were submitted in 2022.

The scheme two years ago requested the Kavango East Regional Council to pump over N\$80 million into the irrigation farm.

Ndonga Linena Agri Foods director Leon Tjihero says the ministry has, however, failed to pronounce the green scheme’s status and to provide feedback on a bid winner.

“Bidding closed on 16 December 2022. We hoped to get a response, so we wrote a letter to the ministry in July. The ministry responded after seeking legal advice from the attorney general,” he says.

Tjihero says Ndonga Linena Agri Foods aimed to create jobs, support small- and medium-scale farmers and provide training.

“What are the legal issues the attorney general’s office cannot resolve or inform us about as investors? Why should it take so long to give us feedback?” he asks.

Tjihero says the green scheme is not satisfied with the ministry.

Ministry spokesperson Regina Valombola says green scheme projects aim to boost agricultural production and attract both private and public sector investment to ensure food security and self-sufficiency.

Valombola says the min-

istry prepared 700ha of land at Ndonga Linena for the production of summer crops such as maize this month.

This reflects a strong commitment to maintaining agricultural productivity while finalising the lease agreement between the ministry and a successful bidder, she says.

“Currently, the green schemes are funded by the government. Therefore, the ministry’s priority is to ensure Namibia becomes self-sufficient by focusing on producing what we consume locally,” Valombola says.

President Nangolo Mbumba visited Kavango East and West regions’ green schemes last Wednesday to familiarise himself with progress amid the country’s severe drought.

He urged them to produce more to mitigate food scarcity.

During his visit, farm managers highlighted the challenges they are faced with, such as crop theft, high electricity bills, a lack of equipment and fence boundaries being vandalised.

“We cannot continue begging for food from other nations. Therefore, we should repair the machines or replace them to produce food. We have enough land to farm on and to expand the current green schemes,” Mbumba said.

He emphasised strong cooperation between regional leaders and green schemes to produce more than expected.

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VACANCY

IntraHealth Namibia is seeking suitable qualified candidates for the following position:

• **Finance Officer** **1x: Windhoek**

For detailed job requirements for the various positions, please visit our website at <https://www.intrahealthnamibia.org/> by clicking on Work With Us, then Career Opportunities, and then Jobs. Closing date for applications is 21 November 2024 at 17:00.

No hand delivered applications will be accepted. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted within 4 weeks after the closing date.

If you do not receive any response within 4 weeks after the closing date, consider your application unsuccessful.

For queries, contact details will be on the website.

IntraHealth Namibia is an equal opportunity employer.

Preference will be given to suitably qualified persons with disabilities.

PDM confronts stock theft, water scarcity

■ Zebaldt Ngaruka

The president of the Popular Democratic Movement (PDM), McHenry Venaani, is concerned about the increase in the incidents of stock theft and water scarcity, specifically in the Omaheke region.

Venaani said this at a recent PDM rally in Gobabis. He said once elected into power, his government will be committed to addressing these issues – not only in Omaheke, but in Namibia at large.

He stated that the rising tide of livestock theft poses a great threat to farmers, who last year lost animals worth N\$3.4 million in the Omaheke region alone.

“This is an affront to our agricultural sector and livelihoods of those who depend on it,” Venaani said. Between 2022 and 2023, close to 1 200 cases of livestock theft were reported to the police countrywide.

Omaheke region recorded 225 cases, and Otjozondjupa had the highest number of incidents totalling 451 cases.

This places the two regions on top of the chart of regions with the highest cases of stock theft in

the country. The opposition leader, who is also a commercial farmer in the region, stated that the PDM government will be resolutely committed to addressing crime in its all forms.

“We will ensure that our communities can feel safe and secure. We shall enhance the training of police officers to ensure that investigations result in successful convictions,” he said.

Venaani added that his government will decentralise policing powers from national to regional and local authorities.

He emphasised that water scarcity is a critical issue that his government will confront “head-on”. “We are striving for the green revolution. We will invest in sustainable practices that protect our water resources. We will ensure that all citizens have access to clean water,” he said.

Venaani said the PDM regime will build a desalination plant along the coast with a water supply line for Namibia’s interior, and guarantee consistent access to water for farming.

The PDM leader also promised to



Campaign trail... PDM president McHenry Venaani with supporters.
Photo: File

build earth dams in every village and settlement across the country, as they are currently under water stress.

“We will install water points within 100 metres of settlements, particularly in areas where human-wildlife conflict is likely to occur,” he revealed.

He said this would help and guarantee

convenient access to drinkable water, and reduce human-wildlife conflict.

He then called on party members not to lose hope despite the existing challenges.

“We must be steadfast in our conviction to usher in change. We stand at a crossroads, presented with a golden opportunity to send a clear message to the Swapo-led

government that it is no longer business as usual – come 27 November 2024,” he said.

He added that PDM will no longer stand idle while malfeasance, greed, graft, corruption and maladministration undermine democracy.

“Together, we will be able to forge a new path for Namibia. The PDM stands ready to usher in this new era in our country’s history,” he stated.

He said the party is committed to ensuring that the government serves the people, and not the other way around.

He remarked that PDM possesses the political maturity, dexterity and experience to take over the reign of government.

“We must reject the ruling party in its entirety. We must break the cycle of malfeasance, maladministration and corruption as we build a better Namibia for ourselves and future generations,” he said. He noted that the first step in realising a better Namibia is through voting for PDM on election day, as well as him being voted as the country’s president.

-zngaruka@yahoo.com

UPM adds PLAN, SWATF on parliamentary list

... SWATF seek Veterans Act repeal



Protest... United Nations House Security advisor Lucia Stephanus received a petition from Swatf spokesperson William Beukes. Photo: Pinehas K Pinehas

■ Rudolf Gaiseb

The United People’s Movement (UPM) has incorporated members of the People’s Liberation Army of Namibia (Plan) and the former South West African Territorial Force (Swatf) into its parliamentary roster.

This is in an effort of what it calls a groundbreaking move toward national reconciliation and unity.

The individuals added to this list are Polykarp Ameya from Plan, who will represent the Omusati region, and Benson Kaapala from Swatf represents the Zambezi region.

In a recent press release, UPM president Jan van Wyk emphasised that this collaboration represents a crucial advancement in mending historical rifts and nurturing a culture of forgiveness among the people of Namibia.

“The UPM’s initiative underscores the importance of recognising the contributions of all individuals who participated in the pre-independence struggles, regardless of their affiliations. This moment represents not just a political alliance but a profound acknowledgement of our shared history, and the need for reconciliation and healing,” he said.

He added: “It is a testament to the strength of our nation that former adversaries can come together in

service of a common future”.

Van Wyk said UPM seeks to foster dialogue, understanding and cooperation among all Namibians through this partnership.

The politician emphasised that this collaboration stands as a significant emblem of hope, illustrating the potential to transcend the remnants of conflict, and work towards a more inclusive and harmonious society.

“As Namibia continues to navigate the complexities of its post-independence landscape, the UPM remains committed to fostering unity and addressing the needs of all citizens. This historic partnership is a call to action for all Namibians to embrace forgiveness, work together for a brighter future and under the banner of ‘God Heal Our Land’. We are ensuring that the beginning of this dream and prayer starts with us according to 2 Chronicles 7:14,” he highlighted.

Veterans Act repeal

Swatf and Koevoet have called for the prompt repeal of the Veterans Act of 2008, seeking recognition as veterans in Namibia.

In a recent petition submitted at the United Nations House, these two groups assert that the Act, in its present form, contradicts both the letter and spirit of the Namibian Constitution. Furthermore, they

argue that it is discriminatory and lacks universal applicability.

“We want the immediate beneficiation of former Swatf, Koevoet, orphans, liberation kids and all other equally-deserving war veterans. [We want] the immediate payment of all other such benefits with such interest

accrued on such benefits. [We want] the implementation of true and all-inclusive national reconciliation, and the integration of all able and still-deserving war veterans into the military, police, correctional

services and other government institutions,” reads the petition. -rrgaiseb@gmail.com

INVITATION TO PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING

Notice is hereby given to all **Interested & Affected Parties** (I&APs) that an application will be made to the Environmental Commissioner in terms of Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) and the Environmental Assessment Regulations (Government Notice No. 30 of 6 February 2012) for the following intended activity:

Project Description: Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIA) and development of the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) for the subdivision and establishment of two townships on Portions A and B on Farm Divundu Townlands No: 1462

Project Location: Divundu, Kavango East Region, Namibia

Proponent: Divundu Village Council

Environmental Consultant: Samson Mulonga

Public Participation Meeting:

Venue:	Divundu Village Council Offices
Date:	22 nd November 2024
Time:	09H00

Should you wish to register as an Interested & Affected Party and receive the ESIA documents, please contact CNM Environmental Consultants at **+264-81-227-4867** or alternatively, at **mulongas@gmail.com**.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NOTICE

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR PROPOSED KING KAULUMA-OMUTSEGWONIME RURAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME, OSHIKOTO REGION (P-NA-E00-005)

Notice is hereby given to all Interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) that an application will be made to the Environmental Commissioner in terms of Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) and its Regulations (2012) for the following intended activity.

Project Name: King Kauluma-Omutsegwonime Rural Water Supply Scheme

Project Location: King Kaluma-Omutsegwonime, Oshikoto Region

Project Description: The development of the rural water supply scheme along the B1 Road section between Omutsegwonime and King Kauluma village in Oshikoto Region. The project will entail the construction of pipelines, pump stations, elevated tanks and manifolds.

Proponent: Ministry of Agriculture, Water & Land Reform (AfDB Funded project)

Environmental Consultant: Matrix Consulting Services

Matrix Consulting Services has been appointed by MAWLR to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Management Plan for the proposed development.

All I&APs are encouraged to register and raise concerns or provide comments and opinions by attending the meeting or via email. All I&APs will be provided with a Background Information Document (BID) comprising detailed information for the intended activity and will be informed of the public participation process to be followed. Should you wish to register as an I&AP and receive a BID,

Please contact the Matrix Consulting Services office.
Contact, at Tel: (+264-61) 224197,
E-Mail: environment@matrixconsultingcc.com

Public Meeting Schedule:

Place	Date	Time
Omutsegwonime (Etala Lyo kindergarten (Lyokinda))	30 Nov 2024	10h00
King Kauluma (Oshiti sha Haihonya)	30 Nov 2024	14h30

DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS IS 10 DECEMBER 2024