



Drought action plan for livestock farmers

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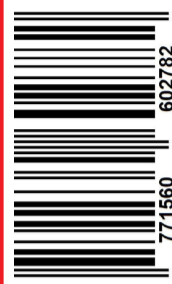
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STILL TELLING IT LIKE IT IS! Vol. 34 No. 101

N\$5 TUESDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2020

ACC hunts for Fishrot lawyer linked to N\$90m

• SHINOVENE IMMANUEL

THE Anti-Corruption Commission is looking for a Namibian lawyer linked to N\$90 million paid out in dubious transactions from the National Fishing Corporation of Namibia (Fishcor).

The money was allegedly paid out to individuals implicated in the Fishrot scandal while some of it was used to buy properties abroad.

ACC director general Paulus Noa did not reveal the lawyer's name but he confirmed that the transactions involved close to N\$90 million.

The Namibian understands that one of the people being tracked down by the graft watchdog is lawyer Marén de Klerk from the Windhoek-based law firm De Klerk, Horn & Coetzee (DHC) Inc. A source familiar with the matter said De Klerk – a close associate and lawyer of former justice minister Sacky Shanghala – was questioned by the ACC last month. He subsequently travelled to South Africa on 17 January and has not returned.

The N\$90 million paid by Fishcor appears to have benefited the same clique that included former ministers Bernhard Esau

and Sacky Shanghala and former Investec Asset Management Namibia managing director James Hatuikulipi, who allegedly pocketed close to N\$103 million from Fishrot bribes. Noa said the latest suspect can run but not hide.

"I will not reveal who he is but I just want him to come back. He will not hide forever," Noa told *The Namibian* yesterday.

The ACC chief said he was shocked by the latest findings of the case. "It's actually worse," he said.



Marén de Klerk

LAWYER: continued on page 2

Namibian nurses to work in Germany

• NDANKI KAHURIKA

HEALTH minister Kalumbi Shangula has welcomed the employment of 16 nurses at Germany's Dusseldorf's university hospital.

This comes in light of Germany's need to fill 60 000 nurses posts through employment agencies, that country's state-owned media group, Deutsche Welle (DW) recently reported.

The minister said the process of choosing which nurses were to go to Germany was not done through the ministry but was done through individual efforts.



Kalumbi Shangula

NURSES: continued on page 2



Photo: Henry van Rooi

Katrina Hanse-Himarwa

Appeal hurdle trips Hanse-Himarwa

• WERNER MENGES

A PETITION to the chief justice is now the last option available to former education minister Katrina Hanse-Himarwa in her quest to have her conviction on a charge under the Anti-Corruption Act overturned.

Hanse-Himarwa sidestepped a question on whether she would petition the Supreme Court for leave to appeal against her conviction after she heard in the Windhoek High Court yesterday that her request to be allowed to appeal has been turned down.

Instead of answering the question, she said: "You are asking me questions so you go and twist it your way. [...] Go and wait on me. You will still hear from me."

Judge Christie Liebenberg struck Hanse-Himarwa's application for leave to appeal from the court roll after finding that she did not give a satisfactory explanation for the late filing of the application, and that she did not show that an appeal to the Supreme Court

had a reasonable chance of succeeding.

Judge Liebenberg's decision marks the end of the road in the High Court for Hanse-Himarwa's bid to appeal against the judgement in which she was found guilty in July last year of a charge of corruptly using an office or position for gratification.

In terms of the Criminal Procedure Act, she would now have to address a petition to the chief justice if she wants the Supreme Court to allow her to appeal to that court against her conviction. Such a petition must be done within 21 days after her application for leave to appeal did not succeed in the High Court, the law stipulates.

The charge on which Hanse-Himarwa was found guilty was based on evidence that she in December 2014, when she was still the governor of the Hardap region, interfered in the allocation of houses built at Mariental as part of the government's mass housing

KATRINA: continued on page 2

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