



Namibian Defence Force



JOURNAL

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July - Sept 2018



DEMONSTRATION of selfless service, by
putting the *WELFARE* of the nation first



Republic of Namibia

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

VISION

To be a reliable and committed national defence organisation with the capacity to defend Namibia and render effective peace time support.

MISSION

To operate a cost effective, professional and highly mobile national defence system that will safeguard Namibia's territory, its inhabitants and national interests, and to contribute to national development and world peace.

CORE VALUES

*Patriotism and Dedication
Respect for Rule of Law
Integrity
Transparent and Accountability
Professionalism
Teamwork and Cooperation*



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THE EDITORIAL BOARD welcomes your letters, opinions, poems or puzzles. Any contribution will be edited for accuracy or space. All contributions must include the writer's contact details

COVER PAGE



Illustration of medals that were decorated on soldiers due to their involvement and contribution to the cause of Army development and the maintenance of peace and stability in the country and beyond since 1990

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*Farewell
to*

Maj Gen Ben Kadhila

Chief of Staff Joint Ops



It is with great pleasure to present to you the July – September edition of the NDF Journal that covers the Ministry of Defence (MOD) and the Namibian Defence Force (NDF) activities carried out in quarter two of the 2018/19 financial year. It is thus, delightful to report that all planned activities were successfully executed.

This edition is packed with various exciting news articles of Defence interest for your reading pleasure, however, for educational purpose, this editorial comment opts to mainly focus on the importance of Joint Military Exercises in the Defence Force. It has come to light that some people find it difficult to comprehend the logic behind the Joint Military Exercises that are mostly conducted between sister Defence Forces at a bilateral and multilateral level. This editorial attempts to offer some highlights regarding the importance of Joint Military Exercises in relations to preparing the Regional Forces for peace support operations.

Joint Military Exercises by nature are considered to be the employment of military resources to train for military operations, test tactics and capabilities without real combat situation. Such Exercises impart on participants a thorough understanding of the challenges involved in joint planning and coordinating complex national and multinational peace support operations.

The exercises thus test communication, decision making in the complex situation of uncertainty, and the effectiveness of joint planning. They enhance the overall conflict management capacity of the troops involved and forge professional links among themselves. They further enhance capabilities of involved military officers and improve understanding of their roles and that of their civilian counterparts in peace support efforts.

Although Joint Military Exercises are costly, they are classified especially by Southern African Development Community (SADC) and African Union (AU) as activities that worth undertaking in the promotion of Regional and Global peace. To date, Namibia as a member state of SADC prides herself for successfully hosting bilateral and multilateral Exercises such as; Exercise Welwitchia in 2013, Exercise Hanganee I in 2016, Exercise Blue Kunene in 2017, and has undertook to host Exercise Hanganee II in 2020.

To this end, the Namibian Defence Force values the efforts of Joint Military Exercises, as they enhance military personnel's performance in conflict resolution efforts.

Thank you.





Honours and Awards
celebrating extraordinary rich
and generous services

NDF

HONOURS

Exceptional Services

By: Pte N Kasheeta

The Namibian Defence Force (NDF) has acknowledged the value and military traditions by honouring and conferring medals to Army members who have served and performed exceptionally during their military career.

Since the establishment of the NDF, members have been actively involved in maintaining peace and security in the country and also contributed to international stability.

Over three thousand (3000) soldiers were conferred with various medals including NDF Commendation, Army Pioneers, Army 10 Years, Army 20 Years and Operation Mandume for outstanding service to the country.

The medals were conferred in descending order of seniority whereby Hon. Penda Ya Ndakolo, Minister of Defence conferred medals to Lt Gen John Mutwa, Chief of the Defence Force (CDF) and Rear Admiral Peter Vilho, Permanent Secretary (PS) of the Ministry of Defence on 04 September at Defence Headquarters.

Hon. Ya Ndakolo commended both PS and CDF for ensuring that the Defence Force is well equipped, trained, disciplined and combat ready at all times. "Under your care, the NDF successfully carried out various military assignments both at home and abroad despite some challenges and these would not be possible without your commitment and dedication to the mission as enshrined in the Namibian Constitution," Minister stated.

On the same day, Lt Gen Mutwa conferred medals on General and Senior Officers at a colourful parade mounted at Tobias Hainyeko Garrison while



Hon. Ya Ndakolo conferring medals on Lt Gen Mutwa

“Under your care, the NDF successfully carried out various military assignments both at home and abroad despite some challenges.” **Hon. Penda Ya Ndakolo**



Hon. Ya Ndakolo awarding NDF Commendation Certificate to Defence PS, R Adm Peter Vilho

Namibia, Southern Angola, and the Democratic Republic of Congo respectively.

“I hold a conviction that for those Operations to become a success, it was because of unwavering dedication, persistent sacrifice, bravery and determination that you have demonstrated,” concluded the General.

NDF COMMENDATION MEDAL

This medal is awarded to NDF Senior Officers of the rank of Colonel and above in recognition of their exceptional service for

officers from Lieutenant Colonel and below received medals from their commanders at their respective duty stations.

Addressing the parade, Lt Gen Mutwa felt honoured to award medals which he said is a military tradition that came a long way and it inspires soldiers.

He further stated that serving for more than a decade was a noble journey that contributed towards training and development of the NDF, adding that their service did not only contribute to peace and security in the country but it went beyond the breadth and width of Africa and the world at large.

“We should not forget that the Army Pioneers constituted the first Namibian Peacekeeping contingent to Cambodia in 1992 as part of our contribution to the maintenance of international peace and security. Similarly, I further acknowledge the contribution made by all members of the NDF who participated in the United Nations Peace Missions notably, in Angola, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Ethiopia and Eritrea amongst others,” Gen stated.

The CDF also acknowledged the gallant warriors who participated in Operation Mandume and Operation Atlantic from 1999-2002 at North-eastern

having performed commendable duty with diligence, determination, loyalty, and perseverance which inspire members under their command.

ARMY PIONEER

This medal was awarded to individual members of the NDF in recognition of meritorious service at the establishment of the Namibian Army in 1990.

It recognises their dedication to duty and professionalism which reflect a great credit upon themselves, their Directorates, Formations, Units and the Namibian Defence Force as a whole.

ARMY TEN YEARS

This medal is awarded in recognition of the meritorious achievement during a decade of uninterrupted service in the Namibian Army. It is awarded to individuals who have continuously conducted themselves exceptionally during their ten years of service. It honours members of the NDF who have displayed commendable performance in line with military traditions during their service and reflects credit upon themselves, their Directorates, Formations, Units and the NDF as a whole.



Generals and Senior Officers at the Medals Award Parade

ARMY TWENTY YEARS

This medal is awarded in recognition for the meritorious achievement during the two decades of uninterrupted service in the Namibian Army.

It is awarded to individuals who have continuously conducted themselves exceptionally during their twenty years of service. It honours members of the NDF who have displayed commendable performance in line with military traditions during their service and reflects credit upon themselves, their Directorates, Formations, Units and the Namibian Defence Force as a whole.



Col H.Beukes, Senior Staff Officer Payroll conferring medals on Wing Commander R.Nambuli from Directorate of Finance



Lt Gen Mutwa conferring medals on Col Bernadette Iita from Defence Health Service Directorate

OPERATION MANDUME

This medal was awarded in recognition of significant roles and bravery displayed by NDF members who served in Operation Mandume in hot pursuit against UNITA rebels. It is awarded to individual members of the NDF for their selfless service, dedication to duty and professionalism during the operation.



Brig Gen D Amutenya Chief of Staff Logistics conferring medals on Sgt S. Iiyambo

PROMOTION AND APPOINTMENTS



Brig Gen M Alueendo
Chief of Staff Defence Intelligence
transferred and appointed
Deputy Army Commander



Rear Admiral (JG) SS Hangula
Chief of Staff Human Resources
transferred and appointed
Chief of Staff Defence Intelligence



Brig Gen AN Nambahu
Defence Inspector General
transferred and appointed
Chief of Staff Human Resources



Brig Gen J Namhindo
Commandant MS
transferred and appointed
Commandant NCSC



Brig Gen KE Kashindi
GOC 12 Bde
transferred and appointed
Commandant Military S



Brig Gen T Simon
Commandant NCSC
transferred and appointed
Defence Attaché - India



Col J Kapala
Commandant Army Battle School
promoted - Brig Gen and appointed
GOC 12 Bde



Col FF Amupolo
Defence Attaché - Germany
promoted - Brig Gen and appointed
Defence Inspector General



Capt (N) PN Tjandja
Chief of Naval Staff Human Resources
promoted - R Adm (JG)
and appointed
Deputy COS Joint Ops



Col MN Shikomba
Commander Special Forces
transferred and appointed
Deputy Commander 21 Bde



Lt Col JI Shimweetheleni
Deputy Commander Special Forces
promoted - Col and appointed
Commander Special Forces



Lt Col H Mvula
SO1 CIMIC, DHQ
promoted - Col and appointed
Commandant Army Battle School

HEROES DAY COMMEMORATION

“ T h e A i m w a s I n d e p e n d e n c e ”

“We should not lose sight of the reasons for which so many Namibians sacrificed their lives. It was about Unity, Liberty and Justice.”

H.E. Dr. Hage Geingob

By: SMO. G Amaambo

Members of the Namibian Defence Force (NDF) from all Arms of Service constituted a Brigade that mounted a parade to perform ceremonial functions in honour of the 28th Heroes' Day Commemoration at Nkurenkuru the capital town of Kavango West Region.

The crowd at Nkurenkuru Stadium was placed in a delighted mood as the colourful brigade in route columns of battalions marched into the parade under the command of Col Paulus Shetwaadha Ipinge, the Parade Commander and Commander of Reconnaissance Regiment, before the arrival of H.E. Dr. Hage Geingob, President of the Republic of Namibia



H.E. Geingob inspecting the parade

and Commander-In-Chief of the Namibian Defence Force.

The day was dawned with the National and AU Anthems by the NDF brass band, 21-Gun salutes in remembrance of heroes and heroines who launched the liberation struggle of Namibia as well as those who contributed to the cause of independence. As a tradition at national events, men and women in uniform displayed their drill skills to showcase military culture and discipline.

After the parade inspection followed by parade march off, and fly-pass by military air assets conducted concurrently with weapon display as a demonstration

of combat readiness, Dr. Geingob addressed the nation and informed them the significance of the day which was commemorated under the theme "Working for A United, Free and Just Namibia."

H.E. stated that Heroes and Heroines who were honoured came from all walks of life and from all regions of the motherland. "They all shared one great character, a strong desire to transform their feelings or compassion for their fellow countrymen and women into heroic action," said Dr. Geingob.

The President made a clarion call to all Namibians that as they commemorate and reflect on Heroes day, they should also remain committed to the dream of creating a peace loving, united and prosperous country. "We should look forward, towards the path of peace, healing and national reconciliation. Let us hold hands in the spirit of Unity, Liberty and Justice for the sake of a better Namibia. The land we all call home, the Land of the Brave sons and daughters whose blood waters our freedom. We should not lose sight of the reasons for which so many Namibians sacrificed their lives. It was about Unity, Liberty and Justice," said the President.

26 August 'Heroes Day' reflect the day when gallant sons and daughters of the Namibian soil launched the liberation struggle at Omugulugwombashe in



Markers displaying their drill skill



Military equipment on display

1966 against the South African apartheid regime. During that time, the then South Africa government was mandated by the League of Nations to prepare South West Africa now Namibia towards its self-determination.

However, South African apartheid regime refused to allow self-determination for South West Africa, which forced the UN to revoke their mandate in 1966. South African apartheid regime refused to recognise that move and invaded all resistance from Namibian liberation fighters. On 26 August 1966, the People's Liberation Army of Namibia clashed with soldiers of the South African apartheid regime at Omugulugwombashe, marking the launch of Namibia's liberation struggle, which they eventually won in 1989.



Military parade ready for inspection by the Head of State

NAMIBIA

VALIDATES A DRAFT FOR NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY



“Namibia Moving The United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 Forward 2018 – 2022.”

By: Cpl T Nghipunya

Namibia made a significant progress on its journey to realise the implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 which seek to promote and recognise the crucial roles women play in the prevention and management of conflicts as well as their roles in post-conflict peace building.

This significant inroad was given prominence when the Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare and other stakeholders convened a meeting to review and validate the draft for the National Action Plan (NAP) on Women, Peace and Security held on 07 July 2018 in Windhoek.

The United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 was adopted in 2000 to compel UN member states to comply with the objectives of the Resolution in order to promote and strengthen women's influence and meaningful participation during peace processes and to empower them through education and continuous capacity building.

Namibia's NAP focuses on five pillars namely;

1. Participation of women in political and security decision making processes and structures.
2. Prevention of conflict and all forms of violence and against women and girls.
3. Prevention of impunity for sexual and gender based violence.
4. Protection of women and children in conflict and non-conflict situations.
5. Promotion of women's participation in relief and recovery efforts.

The meeting attracted local and regional feminists and security experts who highlighted and reaffirmed the importance of NAP and the need for translating it into a working document.

Speaking at the occasion, Hon. Penda Ya Ndakolo, Minister of Defence singled out that NAP is an instrument, which does not only define the priorities, but also guides the implementation and facilitates the monitoring and reporting on



Hon. Doreen Sioka (5th left), Minister of Gender Equality and Child Welfare flanked by Ms. Jebbeh Foster, Regional Advisor on Women, Peace and Security, Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office with NAP stakeholders

the Women, Peace and Security agenda at national level.

Conversely, Ya Ndakolo explained that equal participation of men and women in UN Peacekeeping missions fulfil the national development instruments such as Harambee Prosperity Plan (HPP) and National Development Plans (NDPs), that stipulate inclusivity of all people. “We are convinced that equal participation and opportunities for men and women in peace processes and development efforts will galvanise governments and citizens into action that brings about more gender sensitive security sectors,” stated the Minister.

Meanwhile, Ms. Jebbeh Foster, the Regional Advisor on Women, Peace and Security, Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office commended Namibia for fulfilling the UNSC Resolution 1325 and urged for the acceleration of NAP’s endorsement process. “More importantly, it is not

about reporting but fulfilling the aspirations of the NAP; of maintaining a safe and peaceful Namibia where all women, men, girls and boys have equal rights and live with dignity without fear. We thank the Government of the Republic of Namibia for trusting the UN, especially UN Women to accompany them on this journey towards the development of a NAP on Women, Peace and



Group discussion during the meeting

AUGUST 26 LOGISTICS

Acquires own facilities

By: SSgt Z Ngaruka

On its quest to expand business operation, August 26 Logistics acquired a state of the art logistic hub at Lafrenz Industrial area in Windhoek. The New Office block and Warehouse facilities was inaugurated on 06 September.

August 26 Logistics (Pty) Ltd is a subsidiary company of August 26 Holding company (Pty) Ltd that run multiple defence industries such as Windhoek Maschinenfabrik, August 26 UBM Construction, Garment and Textiles, Sat Com, and Shoe Factory amongst others. August 26 Holding company (Pty) Ltd is a state owned enterprise wholly-owned by the MOD.

Established in 2013, August 26 Logistics specialises on supply and delivery of food products and services to the MOD installations and other institutions. Ever since, the company has been operating from a confined complex on a rental capacity, which prompted them to build its own logistic hub, an indication that August 26 Logistics is growing and adding value to its development and existence.

"We are glad to see this important development and this make us happy to see that one of our companies is growing from strength to strength,"

-Hon. Billy Mwaningange

"We are glad to see this important development and this make us happy to see that one of our companies is growing from strength to strength," said Hon. Billy Mwaningange, Deputy Minister of Defence during his keynote address at the inauguration ceremony of the August 26 logistic hub.

The Deputy Minister deemed its necessary that the company management run its affairs in a transparent and accountable

MAJ GEN KADHILA RETIRES

After pioneered the Namibian Defence Force from a lengthy period in the liberation struggle

By: LCpl E Ndawedapo

One of the well decorated NDF soldiers, the first Commander of Namibia Special Forces and battle tested cadre Maj Gen Ben Uyumba Kadhila remarkably completed his military career after serving the NDF since its inception in 1990.

Maj Gen Kadhila, the former Chief of Staff Joint Operations bids farewell to the Ministry of Defence and the Namibian Defence Force at a reception held in his honour in July at the Defence Headquarters.

Gen Kadhila's military career dates back during the liberation struggle where he served as a combatant of the People's Liberation Army of Namibia. After independence, he was inducted in the NDF as a Captain. He rose through the ranks structure and served the NDF in various capacities including Senior Staff Officer Current Operations, Commander Special Forces as well as Chief of Staff Joint Operations amongst others.

The former Chief of Staff Joint Operations played a vital role in the development of the NDF including the formulation of training directives, standard operating procedures and also add value to various MOD and NDF policies.



MAJ GEN BEN KADHILA

manner by observing the company ethics and principles of governance in Namibia.

In addition, Minister said that there is a need to address the myth that Defence companies are secretive. "We need to do away with that myth by informing the public and relevant authorities more about our business without compromising the security of our country," he said.

Speaking at the same occasion, Maj Gen Jackobus //Hoabeb, Chairperson of August 26 Logistics Board of Directors applauded the Defence management, business fraternity and Namibians at large for their unwavering clientele support.

The new facility comprises the sufficient office space and warehouse with 1000sqm storage capacity, equaling to 900 tons and has additional cold storage facilities of 28 tons.

"The company has been leasing a premise three times smaller than this one for four years, and leasing is now something of the past," concluded Gen //Hoabeb.



Hon. Billy Mwaningange unveiling the inaugural plaque of the new August 26 Logistics Hub- while Lt Gen Mutwa (left) Maj Gen //Hoabeb (2nd left) and Lt Col (rtd) S. Ntinda, Managing Director of August 26 Logistics look on

August 26 logistic has 36 permanent employees, of which 16 are females and 20 males. In terms of supply route, the company stretches its supply as far as to the remote areas such as Okanguati in the far north-west and the Impalila Island in the Zambezi Region amongst others.

"I recognise and appreciate all the valuable skills, knowledge and positive qualities possessed by Gen Kadhila."

Lt Gen John Mutwa

He was instrumental in planning and preparation of various military operations both at home and abroad.

In acknowledging his military accomplishment, Hon. Penda Ya Ndakolo, Minister of Defence conferred him with the following medals: NDF Commendation, Army Pioneer, Army 20 years and Mandume Operation medals.

Maj Gen Kadhila is an epitome of a quality leadership and inspiration to many men and women in uniform. "It gives me great satisfaction to say that I recognise and appreciate all the valuable skills, knowledge and positive qualities possessed by Gen Kadhila." Lt Gen John Mutwa, the Chief of Defence

Force stated this during Gen Kadhila's farewell reception adding that his exceptional qualities have inspired them in many ways. "For this we thank you for your selfless service to the NDF and assure you that we will build on your military acumen and legacy," Gen Mutwa concluded.

Meanwhile, Gen Kadhila was indebted by the support rendered to him by men and women in uniform during his time of active service. "It was because of your support and hard work that I was able to overcome the day to day challenges, it was all because of you that I was able to reach the rank of a General and to this I will forever remain indebted to you all," Gen Kadhila expressed.

To his peers whom he shared trenches during the liberation struggle, Gen Kadhila urged them to remain intact for the betterment of the NDF to fulfil the ideals of those who sacrificed their lives during the long and bitter struggle for the liberation," concluded Gen Kadhila.

General Kadhila's experience is complimented by various military qualifications including 'psc' Command and Staff College in Zimbabwe and 'ndc' National Defence College in Kenya amongst others.

Botswana, Namibia Joint Military Exercise

Inspires cordiality and harmonises military ethics and skills so that the two countries unhesitatingly work together in, SADC, AU and UN Peacekeeping Missions under the banner of SADC Standby Force

By: Cpl PJ Amunyela

Namibia and Botswana conducted a joint military exercise code named Exercise TSHWARAGANO II to test and enhance interoperability between the Namibian Defence Force (NDF) and Botswana Defence Force (BDF). Exercise Tshwaragano II was conducted from 16 - 30 July 2018 in the general area of Hunkutsi, Lehututu, Kang, and Phuduhudu in the Republic of Botswana.

Exercise TSHWARAGANO II is a reciprocal to EX-HANGANEE I held in Namibia in 2016, designed to improve the joint training exercises between the two Forces in a multi-dimensional Peace Support Operation context at country level and in line with the Southern African Development Community Standby Forces (SADCSF) concept within the broader Southern African Development Community (SADC) Peace and Security spectrum.

In addition, the exercise design was based on Peace Support Operation (PSO) aimed at providing a climax to training and capacity building in order to evaluate the effectiveness of SADCSF in any given Peace Support Operation mandated by African Union (AU) and United Nations (UN).

The overall objectives of the exercise were to enhance interoperability between the two forces so as to practice the employment of a robust rapid deployment capability of the SADCSF at any initial phase of the mission. Additionally, the exercise aimed at jointly training the two Forces on tactics, techniques, procedures and processes used in PSO as well as to practice the planning and conduct of a Joint Peace Support field training exercise at operational and tactical levels.

FOURTEEN SOLDIERS GRADUATE FROM MILITARY SCHOOL'S AUTOMOTIVE PROGRAM

By: SSgt Z Ngaruka

Selected members of the NDF have graduated from automotive mechanical program tailored to up-skill them in the areas that would enable them to keep the Defence vehicle fleet operational at all time.

Fourteen students received Automotive Mechanics Level III Certificates at the Military School (MS) on 19 September 2018 in Okahandja after spending a rewarding three (3) years figuring out key components in the areas of automotive maintenance and repair.

The Automotive Mechanic Course is one of the programs offered by MS and is accredited by Namibia Qualification Authority (NQA).

It is registered with the Namibia Training Authority in terms of Regulation 19 of the Regulations for Registration of Vocational Education and Training Providers.

The course runs for three years in phases (level I to III) and students are placed on job attachment to various recognised private motor companies for practical skills and to gain extra experience.

Hon. Penda Ya Ndakolo, the Minister of Defence, H.E. Christian Schlaga, German Ambassador to Namibia, Brig Gen Eusebius Kashindi, Commandant of the MS as well as other stakeholders were at the graduation ceremony to witness the closure of the very important highlight in the development of the NDF.

Speaking at the event, Minister Ya Ndakolo revealed that the graduation was an evidence that the MS is making significant headway and transforming itself into a sustainable training institution, thus urging the Defence Force management to

Delivering the official opening speech for Exercise TSHWARAGANO II on behalf of the Commander BDF, Major General MCO Mophuting, Director General Support Services of BDF stated that, the successful execution of Exercise Tshwaragano I in Botswana in 2014 and Exercise Hanganee I in Namibia in 2016 was a clear indication that the two countries are dedicated, committed, prepared and determined to continuously train together in bi-lateral joint Peacekeeping operations. "I am equally convinced that the programme areas contained in the exercise concept have cemented a cordial relationship between Botswana and Namibia," Gen Mophuting concluded.

During the exercise, the Forces conducted the outreach programs such as primary health care, dental services, health education, and voluntary HIV counselling and testing among the community members of Kang and the surrounding villages. Furthermore, the Forces also carried out renovations and other services to the existing structures of selected school in Kang, Phuduhudu and Lehututu areas.

The joint training exercises are part of the continued implementation of resolutions taken during the 22nd Session of Botswana /Namibia Joint Permanent Commission on Defence and Security (JPCDS) held in Botswana, 2012 and the Roadmap III for the Operationalisation of the African Standby Force of November 2011.

The next Joint Exercise code named Ex Hanganee II will be conducted in Namibia in 2020.



Joint forces in action during the Exercise



Joint forces in one of the exercise's scenario



Hon. Ya Ndakolo presenting a 3-year Automotive Mechanical certificate to one of the graduates

position the graduates at suitable line of work in order to use and transfer their knowledge and experience for the benefit of the NDF.

To the graduates, Minister urged them to use the opportunity to explore the automotive mechanical field and also to advance their knowledge and skills through various accredited institutions.

"You are lucky to get the opportunity to go through a good study programme accredited with the NQA," said Ya Ndakolo, adding that they should apply the skills and knowledge they have obtained to help the Defence Force to maintain its vehicle fleets in good condition and to be ready for combat.

The Automotive Mechanical Program offered in the MS is a brainchild of the German Advisory Group Namibia, which is responsible for the implementation of projects and tactical goals in the area of defence cooperation. "I recognised the significant contribution made by the German Advisory Group Namibia in all aspects pertaining to the course from the initial planning to its accreditation phase, Minister acknowledged.

Meanwhile, H.E Schlaga, thanked the graduates for their commitment and urged them to make use of their knowledge acquired. "I am asking you to never forget what you study. You are part and parcel of a bigger unit with much more important complex unit," Schlaga concluded.



NAMIBIA, ZAMBIA

Strengthen Defence and Security ties



The Commission implored the Defence and Security institutions of the two countries to not only maintain security along the common borders, but also intensify joint operations and the exchange of information in order to curb such vices''

21st Session of Namibia, Zambia JPCDS

By: CMO G Shuuya

The Governments of the Republic of Namibia and Zambia have a strong bilateral tie particularly in the area of Defence and Security, and they meet annually to review their cooperation through the Joint Permanent Commission on Defence and Security (JPCDS).

The JPCDS is a platform that brings together Defence and Security experts of the two sister countries to discuss issues related to defence, peace, and security amongst others.

In their quest to further strengthen the existing Defence and Security relations, Namibia hosted the 21st Session of the Namibia/Zambia JPCDS in Windhoek from 24 – 28 September.

During their deliberations, the Commission reviewed the implementation of the resolutions of the 20th Session of the JPCDS, held in September 2017 in Zambia, and noted with satisfaction the progress made in their execution.

The Commission assessed the political and security

developments in Namibia and Zambia that had taken place since the last Session and noted, with satisfaction, that the situation in both countries had remained peaceful and stable. Nonetheless, it observed that transnational crimes such as illegal possession of fire arms, migration, smuggling of goods as well as human and drug trafficking had continued to pose a threat to the two countries. The Commission therefore,



Hon. Davies CHAMA, exchanging Minutes of the 20th Session with Hon. Ya Ndakolo

SUICIDE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

By: PRO M Njambali

In an effort to create suicide awareness and prevention among soldiers, the MOD organised a week long campaign (07 – 15 August) aimed at educating NDF members on how to deal with situations and acts that leads to suicide.

Suicide Prevention is an international day commemorated annually on 10 September to provide worldwide commitment and action to prevent suicide.

However, the MOD came up with the long week campaign to reach and spread messages to members of the NDF under the theme 'Working Together to Prevent Suicide.' The campaign helps people to have a better understanding of what suicide is and how it can be prevented. It reduces the stigma associated with the condition and lead to more people seeking help.

According to World Health Organisation, close to one million people died every year across the globe due to suicide, therefore the premise of MOD was to outline, educate and instil hope on members confronted with various social challenges that might force them to commit suicide.

Speaking to members from units in the vicinity of Windhoek at the closure of the campaign on 15 August at Hanganee Katjipuka Kavezeri Barracks, Brig Gen. Dr. Sophia Ndeitunga, Chief of Staff Defence Health Services said that the task in terms of providing and

educating members with psychological problems is enormous. "The MOD will simply not achieve this alone, hence joint efforts of stakeholders with the expertise is indispensable," said Gen Ndeitunga.

In terms of establishing appropriate suicide prevention mechanism, Gen Ndeitunga pointed out early identification and effective management as keys on ensuring that people receive the needed care and support. "I urge Commanders to play a very important and critical role on suicide prevention by providing social support to vulnerable individuals, fighting stigma and engage on follow-up care," stressed Dr. Ndeitunga.

Chief of Staff Defence Health Services revealed that at least 80 percent of suicides committed in Namibia are the consequences of depression, chronic illness, financial problems, family problems and unrealistic expectations, adding that hanging, shooting, drowning, gassing, poisoning one selves and throat slighting are the common methods used by suicide victims. "Talk to someone you trust or seek professional help from Psychologists, Social Workers, Chaplains or Pastors in order to reduce the alarming rate of suicide in Namibia," General Ndeitunga concluded.

undertook to re-affirm and secure the common borders by 2020. In the same vein, it urged the law enforcement institutions of both countries to enhance the fight against cross border crimes and to accordingly address migration, refugees, and customs issues.

It expressed concern over the increasing cases of wildlife crimes in both countries and underscored the need for Defence and Security institutions of the two countries to remain vigilant and intensify their joint operations as well as exchange of information on poaching syndicates.

Concerning the secessionist activities in the two countries, the Commission noted that activists had continued with their calls for secession.

As a result, the Commission stressed the need for the Defence and Security institutions to continue monitoring the activities of secessionists in both Namibia and Zambia, because if not addressed, it has the potential to undermine the security of the two countries.

The Commission also recognised the growing threat of terrorism, which has the potential to undermine the security of the two countries and the region. Thus, the Commission implored the Defence and Security institutions of the two countries to not only maintain security along the common borders, but also intensify joint operations and the exchange of information in order to curb such vices.

Moreover, the Commission noted the ongoing land issues in Namibia as well as in some SADC member states. Therefore, it congratulated the Namibian Government on her commitment to

address the matter during the Second National Land Conference.

Concerning the regional security, the Commission discussed political developments in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) ahead of its national elections. The Commission thus expressed hope that stakeholders to the electoral process in the DRC would continue to engage and agree on various modalities that would ensure a credible and peaceful conduct of the polls.

In addition, it commended the people of Zimbabwe for the peaceful and credible manner in which they conducted the elections in July 2018. In this regard, the Commission congratulated His Excellency Emmerson Mnangagwa for winning the elections.

It also expressed satisfaction with the efforts of the SADC towards the reform process for the return to constitutional order in the Kingdom of Lesotho. It therefore, congratulated the Member States deployed in that country under the SADC Preventive Mission in Lesotho (SAPMIL) for restoring peace and order.

Finally, the Commission reviewed the situation prevailing in the Republic of Madagascar and urged the Government and people of that country to work towards peace and stability.

Hon. Penda Ya Ndakolo, Minister of Defence, led the Namibian delegation while Hon. Davies CHAMA, Minister of Defence led the Zambian delegation.

DEFENCE FORCE TEAMS

Compete in NDF Sport Tournament

Teams drawn from all Arms of Service, Formations and Units convened in Windhoek to grapple in the converted NDF Annual Sport Tournament kicked off from 30 July to 5 August. Athletics, Boxing, Netball, Soccer, Pool Table and Volleyball fanatics were treated to a display of talent and the demonstration of sportsman by men and women in uniform.

As has been the case, the week-long competition previously known as Defence Force Foundation Tournament produce sense of excitement, vengeance and disappointment as titleholders and other some frail teams went back with their head down while those that exhibited exquisite glitzness in the field of play took home the crowns. Non of the champions hold on to their titles.

SOCCER

26 Bde took away the title from the Navy after the Dimo Hamaambo Garrison's outfit exhibited a flare performance to win the final against the Dolphin Bn from the same stronghold. The teams played 2 all draw in a full time to force the match to 4-3 in penalty shoot-out. The 26 Bde took home a trophy, gold medals and N\$3000.00 cash prize. Dolphin Battalion scooped second prize of silver medals and N\$ 1500.00 cash prize on top. Meanwhile, 21 Bde received bronze medal and N\$ 500.00 for a third position.

NETBALL

The netball competition was more interesting as the Windhoek based rivals meet at the final after an unbeaten streak throughout the tournament. The Composite Depot from Hanganee Kavezeri Katjipuka Barracks came from behind to edge the champions 21 Bde from Tobias Hainyeko Garrison. 21 Bde started the match well determined coming in the third quarter but their rivals came back firing with enthusiasm to secure a 27-24 win and take away the trophy that came with gold medals and N\$ 2000.00 cash prize. 21 Bde received silver medals and N\$ 1000.00 cash money, while the Navy received N\$500.00 on top of the bronze medals.



26 Bde Commander, Brig Gen E. Tshavuka and soccer team skipper receiving the trophy from the DFF Chairman, Lt Gen Mutwa



Pool Table competition underway during the tournament



Marathon race underway during the tournament

VOLLEYBALL

The Navy retained the championship after they have completed the tournament undefeated and thrashing Recce Regt by 3-0 points at the final to lift the trophy with gold medals and N\$ 2000.00 cash money, whereas Recce Regt came second and take home silver medals and N\$ 1000.00 cash prize. 21 Bde finished third and received bronze medals with N\$ 500.00 cash money.

POOL TABLE

Recce Regt from Lt Gen Dimo Hamaambo Garrison show cased fine flair to take away the title from Air Defence Bde after beating APSOHU and took home the trophy, gold medals and N\$ 2000.00. APSOHU went with silver medals and N\$ 1000.00 while the third position prize of bronze medals and N\$ 500.00 were awarded to 26 Bde.

BOXING

The Special Forces had a sensational competition as they managed to win three (3) gold medals and N\$ 1000.00 cash prize, ahead of 21 Bde and Navy at second place both received silver medals while Military School Okahandja received the bronze medals.

ATHLETICS

Athletics enthusiasts have seen the Defence Headquarters dominating both the 100m, 200m, and 4x100 Relay Races and 10 Km.

The Defence Headquarters took most of the gold medals followed by the Navy and 21 Bde respectively.

Overall gold medal winners:

1. Navy – 5 gold medals
2. Defence Headquarters – 4 gold medals
3. Namibia Special Forces and 21 Bde – 3 gold medals each

The 5th NDF Tournament was sponsored by Defence Force Foundation, courtesy of August 26 Logistics, Metropolitan/Swabou Namibia, Letshego Namibia, Distell Ltd. Namibia, Poly-technologies Inc, Sat-Com, Leo Panel Beaters, M&K Bakery, MTN, Natal Self Services and Osona Village Project.

The next NDF Tournament will be hosted by the Namibian Navy in 2019.



Netball final match between Compsite Depot and 21 Bde at Katutura Youth Complex



Composite Depot fans cheering their netball team during the final match



One of the boxing bouts at Katutura Youth Complex



Volleyball match between Navy vs Recce Regiment

NDF LADIES

Clinch Volleyball League Title

The NDF ladies' volleyball team put up a sizzling display throughout the season to win the Central Volleyball Association (CVA) league campaign. The award was determined by the final game they won 3-1 over Deutscher Turn-Und Sportverein (DTS) at UNAM Main Campus Gym Hall on 28 July where the NDF men's team lost by same margin at the hand of UNAM to complete the league at fourth position.

The ladies in uniform started the league impressively and kept the momentum to recapture the championship from Sport Klub Windhoek (SKW). In all 10 games of the 2018 campaign NDF ladies managed to win nine matches and a solitary lost.

Coming to the D-day of the league the NDF ladies faced an uphill battle but managed to out point the DTS to get away with top prize.

The NDF ladies took the game to DTS rivals from the onset to win the first set but the DTS put up a stern performance to win the second set. With the time lapsing, the uniformed ladies realised their potential and the importance of seizing the championship as they went on to win the two consecutive sets to register the top honour of a trophy, gold medals and N\$5000.00 cash prize.

After crowned winners of the CVA 2018 league campaign, the NDF ladies were expected to face the champions from other regional association leagues in the Bank Windhoek NVF Cup that will determine their participation in the Zone Six Club Championship in Durban, South Africa later this year.

In the other regional 2018 leagues campaign, both Navy ladies and men came second in the Erongo Volleyball Association league. Meanwhile, Eleven Warriors men's team from Lt Gen Dimo Hamaambo Garrison came second in the Far North Association league whereas their female counterpart finished fourth.





NDF Ladies versus Revivals in one of the games that determined their Volleyball League triumphant



NDF Ladies upon receiving the top prizes after declared Volleyball League winners following a 3-1 points win over DTS at UNAM Gym Hall

