



*Republic of Namibia*

**STATEMENT BY**

**ERGINUS ENDJALA**

**ON THE OCCASION OF THE STATE OF THE REGIONAL ADDRESS**

**18 JUNE 2021**

**OUTAPI**

**OMUSATI REGION**

**Honourable Cde Andreas Shintama, Chairperson of Omusati Regional Council**  
**Honourable Regional and Local Authority Councillors**  
**Your Worship Cde Selma Nelago Asino, Mayor of Outapi Town**  
**Tatekulu Oswin Shifiona Mukulu, Chief of Ombalantu Traditional Authority**  
**Tatekulu Johannes Mupiya Japhet, King of Ongandjera Traditional Authority**  
**Tatekulu Shikongo Taapopi, King of Uukwaluudhi Traditional Authority**  
**Tatekulu Herman Iipumbu, Chief of Uukwambi Traditional Authority**  
**Tatekulu Daniel Shooya, Chief of Uukolonkadhi Traditional Authority**  
**Tatekulu Matias Walaula, Chief of Ombandja Traditional Authority**  
**Mr. Abisai Shaningwa, Acting Chief Regional Officer of Omusati Regional Council**  
**Commissioner Titus Shikongo, Regional Commander of the Namibian Police**  
**Heads of the Government Institutions**  
**Captains of Industries**  
**Spiritual Leaders**  
**Members of the Media**  
**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

**It is my distinct honour and privilege for having been accorded this opportunity to address you all today, Friday, 18 June 2021 in this August House. This duty is carried out in accordance with the Article 110, Sub-article 5 and 6 of the Constitution of the Republic of Namibia which requires the Regional Governor to attend a Meeting of the Regional Council of the Region once every year. *“It shall occur after the President address Parliament in terms of Article 32 Sub-Article 2.***

*It further stipulates that during the Meeting, the Regional Governor shall address the Regional Council on the State of the Region, on the previous planned activities of the Central Government in the Region and thereafter be available to respond to questions”.*

**At the outset, it is vital to remind this August House that the number of attendants is drastically reduced due to increasing cases of Covid-19. The pandemic is real and continue to annihilate the lives of the people worldwide, including in our beautiful Republic. To save lives, it is critical to adhere to health protocols set, i.e. to properly wear face masks, regularly washing and sanitizing our hands, keeping social distance of 1.5 meter and avoiding unnecessary overcrowdings. Shall we rise in remembrance of those who succumbed to this deadly Covid-19 pandemic and its effects. May their souls rest in eternal peace!**

**Allow me at this juncture to frankly thank the Government of the Republic of Namibia, through the Ministry of Health and Social Services, in particular His Excellency the President, Dr. Hage G. Geingob in his capacity as the Chairperson of the National Covid-19 Task Force, for having provided much needed leadership since the outbreak of Covid-19 in the country, and for his tirelessly effort and his Team which culminated into the procurement of the Covid-19 vaccine and the rollout thereof countrywide.**

**Honourable Chairperson**

**Honourable Members,**

**To date, in Omusati Region a total number of 10,170 people have been tested, out of which 1,629 are confirmed positive, with 112 active cases and 1,493 recovered. Sadly, 20 people passed away due to Covid-19 and other related complications. Likewise, a total number of 64 health workers in our Region has contracted Covid-19 virus in all our District Hospitals. Besides, it is encouraging to learn that a total number of 4,872 have been vaccinated since 19 April 2021 to date. A total number of 2,966 received their first doze while 1906 have completed their dozes. Hence, I hereby urge all Omusati residents to visit vaccination centres and receive your doze in effort to save lives.**

**It is evident that the disastrous effects of the Covid-19 pandemic are not only affecting the health of our nation, but it still continues to negatively affecting the economy, locally and globally. As a result, industries and small income generating activities are closed down which ultimately resulted in loss of income of some citizens, the shortage of indispensable goods and services on local markets, including other social anomalies amongst others. Surely, all these anomalies have negatively affected implementation and eventually culminated into either delays or incompleteness of some Projects in our Region. Notwithstanding such delays, we are really determined to complete all Projects within a remaining timeframe and thereby avoiding returning funds to Treasury.**

**Besides, the said challenges, it is pleasing to observe that our Government is resolute and continues to allocate resources within its means through line Ministries to all 14 Regions.**

**The allocated funds are meant to ascertain improved service delivery, upliftment of the living standards of our people and bringing services closer to our citizens. Against this background, it is now my distinct pleasure to present to this August House all planned developmental activities which unfolded during the 2019/2020 -2020-2021 Financial Years in Omusati Region.**

**Hon Chairperson**

**Hon Members,**

**Pertaining to development of infrastructure, it is pleasing to state that an amount of N\$883,212.65 was spent on electrification of Ondombe yaMalungandjamba and Ombeli in Anamulenge Constituency and Eethika in Ruacana Constituency. Also, an amount of N\$9,000,000.00 was spent on construction of substation for bulk supply of 5 MVA in Outapi and 2 MVA for Okalongo Substation, respectively. Meanwhile, through Regional electrification NORED has electrified 243 sites worth N\$10,352,657.28. Likewise, an amount of N\$169,500.00 was spent on bursaries and internships of 4 students in the Region.**

**An amount of N\$4,000,000.00 was earmarked for construction of services in Okalongo and Onesi Settlements. However, allocated funds were not sufficient for implementation of the said Projects. Hence, the Regional Council was granted permission to deviate allocated funds into the said Settlements.**

**An amount of N\$1,423,867.14 was spent on rehabilitation of roads in Onesi, Ogongo Settlements and Tsandi Village Council.**

**Likewise, an amount of N\$1,237,278.00 was spent on Planning and Surveying in Onesi Proper at Extensions 1 and 2 and in Okalongo at Extension 3 and 4. Furthermore, an amount of N\$4,780,851.98 was spent on some re-graveling, and upgrades to bitumen standards in Tsandi Village, Outapi, Oshikuku, Ruacana Town Councils.**

**An amount of N\$740,457.00 was spent on construction of a Regional Council House where Cuban experts were accommodated, a Car Parking, replacement of Streetlights at ORC Head Office, including a storeroom at Ruacana Constituency. An amount of N\$1,034,937.68 was spent on construction of car ports, installation of electrical security lights, water tank, sign boards and air-cons at Outapi Regional Head Office and Outapi District Hospital.**

**An amount of N\$62,215.00 was spent on remedial of a Treatment Plant in Ogongo Settlement. Likewise, in Elim Constituency, an amount of N\$114,094.50 was spent on remedial work for Okapuku Earth Dam. An amount of N\$184,493.48 was spent on retention for construction of sewer in Tsandi Village Council and an amount of N\$50,000.00 was spent on cleaning of sums at Settlements. An amount of N\$73,196.78 was spent on the Commemoration of the World Food Day in Outapi Constituency.**

**Honourable Chairperson**

**Honourable Members,**

**As far as provision of water in rural areas is concern, the Regional Council in conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform spent an amount of N\$13,526,663.00 on cleaning, pump testing, installation of solar**

systems and purchasing of materials for hand pumps in different Constituencies. Again, N\$6,253,560.94 was spent on drilling of 17 boreholes, solar installation, cleaning; and including rehabilitation of 15 boreholes and provision of short pipes. An amount of N\$1,516,335.00 was spent on construction of 12 earth dams while an amount of N\$3,204,133.07 for construction of 178 pit latrines at households throughout the Region, while Outapi Town Council constructed 17 pit latrines worth N\$112,000.00 for informal settlement within Outapi Town.

An amount of N\$5,430,409.85 was spent on construction of the Early Development Centers at Okahao, Outapi, Ogongo, Otamanzi, Oshikuku and Tsandi Constituencies. A total amount of N\$59,881,751.95 was spent for development of health infrastructure via construction of Out Patient Department (OPD), and ablution block at Okahao District Hospital, construction of Oikokola Primary Health Care Clinic and Oshikulufitu Clinic and Staff accommodation.

Again, a total amount of N\$14,096,068.13 was received from the Environmental Investment Fund to mitigate the human-wildlife conflict management and for adaption of previous drought experienced over the past three years. A new elephant waterproof was created to mitigate the elephant livestock conflict at Amanyanganyanga water point at the cost of N\$204,734.51.

A total amount of N\$17,972,569.53 was spent on construction of sewer, water and electricity at Tsandi Village Council, Outapi and Oshikuku Town Councils. An amount of N\$8,468,094.00 was spent for servicing 1342 plots in Ruacana, Outapi, Oshikuku, Okahao Town Councils.

**In addition, Government Institutions Pension Funds (GIPF) approved home loan mortgages and land servicing worth N\$64,848,188.00 to Local Authorities within the Region.**

**Pertaining to the education sector, an amount of N\$8,834,445.35 was spent on construction of classrooms and ablution facilities. An amount of N\$1,396,471.40 was spent on construction of a dining hall and kitchen at Hiaukambe CS in Ruacana Constituency. Again, an amount of N\$4,168,551.84 was spent on renovation of ablution facilities in hostels as response to mitigate the effect of Covid-19 pandemic.**

**An amount of N\$72,000,000.00 was spent on expansion of Nakayale Vocational Training Centre in conjunction with our strategic partners NTA, EU and GIZ. Furthermore, an amount of N\$400,000.00 was spent on construction of Olefa Open Market in Outapi by Outapi Town Council, meanwhile N\$43,000,000.00 on construction of Outapi Industrial Park, and N\$42,058,940.39 for the construction of Omahenene Business Park by the Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade via NIDA.**

**An amount of N\$78,149,741.25 was spent on construction of Oshikuku Police Station, including N\$1,475,632.47 for procurement of furniture and vehicles. An amount of N\$811,222.57 was spent on construction of the Cultural Heritage Centre in Oshikuku while an amount of N\$600,000.00 was spent for the construction of the open market in Tsandi.**

**Honourable Chairperson**

**Honourable Members,**

**Equally, an amount of N\$229,000.00 was spent for land compensation by Outapi Town Council.**

**The Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform spent an amount of N\$1,336,055.00 for registration of communal land rights, capital projects and issuing of 1807 customary land rights certificates, 4 rights of leasehold certificates and 3 occupational land rights certificates.**

**The Ministry of Industrialization and Trade issued business registration for 696 close corporations, 45 sole trades and 135 small and medium enterprises certificates. Also, the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform successfully implemented Dryland Crop Production Programme through provision of 27 tons of certified seeds, 10 tons of Limestone Ammonium Nitrate (LAN) during the 2019/2020 Financial Year and 20 tractors for ploughing and weeding services. The total number of private tractors registered for the subsidy scheme was 55 and 17 weeding groups.**

**The subsidy for ploughing per hectare is N\$350 while for weeding is N\$250 per hectare. Out of 6 planters, only 5 that are functional. A total number of 27 contractual casual drivers operated the GRN tractors. Meanwhile, a total amount of N\$708,029.00 was allocated for the 2020/2021 FY for ploughing and weeding services through the Dry Crop Production Programme (DCPP). The Cereal Value Chain Development Programme (CVCDP) was allocated an amount of N\$50,000.00 for the period under review.**

**The Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources trained 46 local farmers, registered 35 new farmers, stocked 29 farmers with fingerlings and harvested 28.1 tons of fish at Epalela and Onavivi Inland Aquaculture Centres, respectively. The fish harvested were mainly sold to the community of Omusati Region as part of food security and nutrition value chain.**

**Furthermore, I am pleased to inform you that the Social Security Commission and Rössing Foundation approved the funding of N\$1,950,000.00 for two years 2018 - 2019 FY. The funding was earmarked for establishment of an agricultural project which employed 11 employees i.e. 2 males and 9 females in Oshikuku Constituency.**

**The Ministry of Home Affairs, Immigration and Safety and Security successfully issued 4253 birth certificates, 1949 late birth certificates, 1769 death certificates, 1685 duplicates of birth certificates, 6667 new IDs, and registered 1535 learners to acquire new IDs.**

**It pleasing to state that the Ministry of Health and Social Services continues to ensure the wellbeing of the Namibian people through the provision of antiretroviral therapy (ARV) at 40 clinics, 6 health centres and 4 district hospitals, including some outreach points. As a result, the total number of active clients on ARV were 27,597 in our Region.**

**Honourable Chairperson**

**Honourable Members,**

Moreover, literacy rate in the Region stood at 88% as per Census 2011. Apart from literacy classes, Adult Education offers other programmes such as the Adult Skills Development for Self-Employment (ASDSE), Community Learning and Development Centre (CLDC), and the Family Literacy Programme. During the FY 2019/2020, the number of parents participated in the Family Literacy Programme stood at 927 while during the FY 2020/2021, it stood at 973.

Though, there is a slight decline in the number of literacy centres in recent years due to several factors such as quota allocation of promoters per Region and the impact of COVID-19, just to mention but a few. During the FY 2019/2020, the number of literacy centres stood at 112 while during the FY 2020/2021, it stood at 109.

As far as academic performance is concerned, Omusati is indeed the Best performing Region in Mathematics for the past consecutive years at Namibia Secondary School Certificate (NSSC) Ordinary Level with 56.8%. Omusati is also the Best performing Region in Biology for the past consecutive years at NSSC Ordinary Level with 40.9%. It is worth noting that the Region was ranked at 5<sup>th</sup> position in NSSC Ordinary Level Physical Science with 41%.

In 2019, Negumbo Secondary School was ranked 4<sup>th</sup> nationally in Namibia Secondary School Certificate Higher Level Examinations amongst public schools' performance in 2019 while Canisianum RHS was ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> amongst private schools.

Similarly, in 2020 Onawa SSS was ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> nationally in Namibia Secondary School Certificate Ordinary Level Examinations amongst public schools' performance, while Canisianum Roman Catholic High School was ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in Namibia Secondary School Certificate Ordinary Level Examinations amongst private schools.

Unlike in other Regions where schools are without enough learners at the Advanced Subsidiary Level, the number of learners who performed and achieved requirements in Omusati Region demanded and dictated for increased Advanced Subsidiary Schools. Thus, David Sheehama Senior Secondary School and Shikongo Ipinge Senior Secondary School are earmarked to offer Advanced Subsidiary Level as from 2022 Academic Year.

**Honourable Chairperson**

**Honourable Members,**

Pertaining to crime prevention in the Region the crime rate has been fluctuating during the period under review with assault cases, stock theft and break-in on alarming increase attributed to alcohol and drug abuse. The Region has also experienced unprecedented emergence of cases of dealing in illicit drugs and illegal hunting of specially protected species.

During the State of Emergency lockdown where movements of people were restricted and sale of alcohol was totally banned, common crimes were relatively low.

However, crime increased in numeric digits due to the enforcement of lockdown regulations where many cases were opened by the police against the citizens for non-compliance to State of Emergency regulations. NB: For comparison reasons, kindly refer to the tables below.

*The following table and chart indicate statistics of crime trend, as reported at the stations during the period under review:*

STATION 2020	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
OUTAPI	73	77	103	81	78	90	118	62	93	109	88	113	1085
OKAHA O	59	77	78	46	49	41	71	102	69	64	73	72	801
ONANDJ ABA	19	23	23	28	28	18	40	52	29	27	17	42	346
OSHIKU KU	25	14	21	26	19	29	34	39	37	26	34	34	338
ONESI	10	12	05	04	01	10	05	07	06	10	06	14	90
OGONG O	10	08	19	10	05	06	05	17	23	08	13	16	140
OMAHE NENE	10	09	07	11	10	05	09	11	08	02	08	06	96
OSHIFO	13	12	12	03	12	17	12	15	15	09	08	15	143
ONAAN DA	05	04	12	11	02	09	05	11	18	06	12	06	101

<b>RUACA NA</b>	<b>03</b>	<b>09</b>	<b>06</b>	<b>05</b>	<b>09</b>	<b>08</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>04</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>04</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>09</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>ETAYI</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>07</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>09</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>189</b>
<b>TSANDI</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>260</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>3679</b>
<b>STATIO N 2021</b>	<b>JAN</b>	<b>FE B</b>	<b>MA R</b>	<b>AP R</b>	<b>M AY</b>	<b>JU N</b>	<b>JU L</b>	<b>AU G</b>	<b>SE P</b>	<b>OC T</b>	<b>NO V</b>	<b>DE C</b>	<b>TOT AL</b>
<b>OUTAPI</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>86</b>								
<b>OKAHA O</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>73</b>								
<b>ONANDJ ABA</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>								
<b>OSHIKU KU</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>20</b>								
<b>ONESI</b>	<b>08</b>	<b>04</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>03</b>	<b>08</b>								
<b>OGONG O</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>06</b>								
<b>OMAHE NENE</b>	<b>01</b>	<b>01</b>	<b>04</b>	<b>08</b>	<b>07</b>								
<b>OSHIFO</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>19</b>								
<b>ONAAN DA</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>06</b>	<b>09</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>08</b>								
<b>RUACA NA</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>09</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>07</b>	<b>08</b>								

<b>ETAYI</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>08</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>06</b>								
<b>TSANDI</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>34</b>								
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>297</b>								<b>1636</b>

Most prevalent common cases are assault related cases, due to drugs and alcohol abuse induced, theft related cases, housebreaking with intent to steal and theft (mostly committed by criminals in conjunction with syndicates from other Regions), fraud, Contravention of Liquor Act and possession of cannabis are also on increase.

Relating to Gender-Based Violence crimes, have been also fluctuating due to Covid-19 lockdown and application of stringent regulations on sale of alcohol last year. Like in common crimes, assault cases are most prevalent cases in the Region. The perpetration of these cases is attributed to either alcohol abuse or other social issues such botched marriages, broken family ties or failed relationships. Others includes assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm, assault by threats, common assault and rape. A total number of 614 gender based violence were reported i.e. 431 during the 2020 and 183 to date.

Besides the said achievements, the below are challenges that affect the efforts of crime prevention in the Region such as lack of human resources, scarcity of transport and shortage of necessary equipment. The Region is still awaiting for tarring Tsandi-Onesi-Epalela and Omugulugwoombashe Gravel Roads and the construction of Ombafi-Iipanda-Epato Road.

**As I conclude, I want to urge the young people of Omusati Region that the effects of Covid-19 world-wide has created another area of business opportunities. Food security has dropped drastically, while food prices has increased drastically that has left many people food unsecured. I therefore encourage the young people to treat agriculture sector as a lucrative business more than just a hobby.**

**By treating agriculture as a business we shall improve in food self-sustenance. So, to defeat the notion of being artificial consumers but not producers because we rely on imported food for our consumption. Thus, it is our wish as a Region to formalize the informal market to enable it to enter into the national procurement system.**

**Equally, I urge our local financial institutions to be innovative through unlocking agricultural potential in our Region, especially on manufacturing and agro processing areas that have potential to create job employment opportunities for our youth.**

**Finally, I urge all residents of Omusati Region to adhere to Covid-19 related protocols as set out by the Ministry of Health Social Services to protect ourselves, to save lives and get vaccinated.**

**I thank you!**