



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES

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MEDIA STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

16 February 2016

This statement is in response to an article published in local weekly, *The Windhoek Observer* on Friday, 12 February 2016, under the heading “**NTA loses parastatal status**”. The report, in which I was misquoted/misinterpreted, asserted, amongst others, that the Namibia Training Authority (NTA) stood to lose its status as a parastatal and was to be absorbed into the Ministry of Higher Education, Training and Innovation:

1. ‘Restructuring’ is the process of changing the structure or status of a Public Enterprise and may relate to various actions, which include a company being converted to a Public Enterprise; a Public Enterprise being converted to a company registered under the Companies Act; the liquidation of a Public Enterprise; and the absorption of a Public Enterprise into a Ministry.
2. Any restructuring will always be approached in accordance with Sections 36, 37, 38, 39 and 40 of the Public Enterprises Governance Act, Act 8 of 2006 (as amended), wherein the process to be followed is clearly and explicitly outlined. The first step is the provisional identification of a Public Enterprise for restructuring where the Minister of Public Enterprises identifies a Public Enterprise for restructuring and then gives written notice to the Board that the enterprise has been identified as such. The Board then has to prepare a risk and impact report for consideration. A detailed restructuring plan must then be formulated through consultation with the Portfolio Ministry, the Board and the Chief Executive Officer/Managing Director of the enterprise. After this, the Minister of Public Enterprises must submit the restructuring plan of a provisionally identified enterprise to Cabinet to pronounce itself on the matter, and endorse (or not) the proposed restructuring. If endorsed, a thorough implementation plan will be prepared and the actual restructuring process will take place.
3. From the aforementioned, it should be clear that a thorough process will be followed in a very calculated manner. I want to make it categorically clear, therefore, that no such a process has been initiated for the NTA, or any other Public Enterprise, for that matter.
4. Furthermore, the restructuring of Public Enterprises is an integral part of the envisioned reform of the Namibian Public Enterprise sector. Various formal proposals in this regard may be formulated to ultimately enhance the quality of service delivery through Public Enterprises. In each and every case, due process shall be followed and restructuring will only take place once the Government is convinced that the proposed restructuring is in the best interest of the shareholder, and the public as the consumer or client.
5. I would like to assure the Board of Directors, management, employees and stakeholders of the Namibia Training Authority that no process to restructure the organisation has been initiated. The Ministry of Public Enterprises will not compromise on due process to be followed before such an exercise is undertaken.

Hon. Leon Jooste, MP
(Minister)

