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LIKWAMA FARMERS UNION

P.O. BOX 179
KATIMA MULILO
9000
NAMIBIA

National Archives
of Namibia

Enquiry _____ Our Ref. _____ Your Ref. _____ Tel. 561

LIKWAMA FARMERS ASSOCIATION UNION FEELINGS AND VIEWS ON LAND ISSUE

INTRODUCTION

THE AIM OF THIS DOCUMENT IS TO HIGHLIGHT THE CONFERENCE ON THE LAND ISSUE OF HOW COMMUNAL LAND IN THE CAPRIVI REGION IS BEING DISTRIBUTED.

1. FORMS OF OWNERSHIP

SINCE COMMUNAL LAND IN THE CAPRIVI REGION IS A BIRTH RIGHT, TRADITIONAL RULERS ARE THE BINDING AND APPROVING AUTHORITIES IN THE CASE OF THE LAND TENURE AND LAND DISPUTE. THIS FORMS OF OWNERSHIP IS ENHERITED FROM FATHER TO SON UNDER THE SAME SYSTEM.

2. POPULATION

THE CAPRIVI REGION HAS A POPULATION OF MORE THAN 55,000 INHABITANTS. ABOUT 5,000 OF THIS POPULATION IS EMPLOYED BY THE GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS WHILE THE REST DEPEND ON THE SUBSISTANCE FARMING. LIVESTOCK HAVE ALSO INCREASED UP TO 100,000 HEADS IN THE REGION.

3. FEELINGS OF THE FARMERS COMMUNITY.

WITH THE IMAGE OF THE REFORM ISSUE, HOWEVER TO BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN THE LANDLORDS AND THE INDEGIGENOUS INHABITANTS, IT WOULD BE ADVISABLE TO APPROACH THE SITUATION THROUGH CONSTITUTIONAL MEANS, AS FOLLOWS:

- (a) BY REPEALING DISPLACEMENT CREATED DURING THE COLONIAL ERA.
- (b) RESETTLEMENT SHOULD MEAN THE FOLLOWING;
 - TO RESETTLE WHERE ONE BELONGED BEFORE
 - ALL NAMIBIANS TO HAVE ACESS IN THE COMMERCIAL AREA.
- (c) TO INTRODUCE LAND ACT, AS FOLLOWS;
 - (a) TO LEGALISE TRADITIONAL RULERS AS BINDING AND APPROVING AUTHORITIES ON LAND TENURE
 - (b) TO SETTLE LAND DISPUTE FROM TIME TO TIME AS MAY BE STIPULATED BY THE ACT.
 - (c) SHOULD A FARMER FAIL TO SETTLE HIS/HER LIABILITIES, THE FARMING INSTITUTION CONCERNED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE TRADITIONAL HIERACHY MAY SEEK



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EMICABLE MEANS TO RECORVER THE LOANS.

(4) RECOMMENDATIONS

SINCE THE LAND IN THE CAPRIVI REGION IS A BIRTH RIGHT, IN ORDER TO BOOST THE NATIONAL ECONOMY OF THE COUNTRY AND ASSIST SUBSISTANCE TO COMMERCIAL FARMING, WE RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING;

- (a) COMMUNAL LAND SYSTEM BE RETAINED
- (b) TRADITIONAL RULERS BE RECOGNISED AS BINDING AND APPROVING AUTHORITIES TO FINANCING INSTITUTIONS.
- (c) AN ACT OF PARLIAMENT SHOULD BE PASSED WHICH GIVES TRADITIONAL RULERS AUTHORITY IN SETTLING THE LAND DISPUTE FROM TIME TO TIME.

(5) OBSERVATION

THE FARMING COMMUNITY IN THE CAPRIVI REGION FEEL THAT IF POINTS FROM 1. TO 3 ARE DISREGARDED , THEN THE PEOPLE REGION MAY NOT ENJOY THE FRUITS OF THE INDEPENDENT REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA.

THANK YOU

BY
LIKWAMA FARMERS' UNION