PARLIAMENT OF NAMIBIA-NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

REPORT ON THE PETITIONS BY THE OKAVANGO'S UNIQUE LIFESTYLE (SOUL), CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS IN NAMIBIA AND FRIDAYS FOR FUTURE OF WINDHOEK TO STOP OIL DRILLING IN THE OKAVANGO

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ACRONYMS

ECC	- Environmental Clearance Certificate
EIA	- Environmental Impact Assessment
CLRA	- Communal Land Reform Act
CSO	- Civil Society Organizations
NAMCOR	- National Petroleum Corporation of Namibia
OMAs	- Offices, Ministries and Agencies
RECON	- Reconnaissance Energy Africa
REN	- Reconnaissance Energy Namibia
SOUL	- Save the Okavango's Unique Lifestyle
SRO	- Standing Rules and Orders

CHAIRPERSON'S FOREWORD

It is my pleasure as the Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Natural Resources to present this report on the Petition "to stop oil exploration in the Okavango basin" to this House. The activities that led to the production of this report were intensive, in spite of that, the Committee managed to deliver on the assignment for that I have to thank my fellow Committee Members for their commitment, dedication is highly appreciated. We resolved as a matter of principle to consult all the relevant stakeholders, Offices, Ministries and Agencies, Civil Society Organizations, Traditional Authorities, Regional Governors, Constituency Councilors, and Members of the Public in particular the affected communities to obtain their views and as key testimonies on the matter.

This report covers the main findings which is based on the key concerns of the Petitioners, the views, suggestions from stakeholders and it end with recommendations to the relevant O/M/As for implementation once adopted. In consideration of this petition, views of all relevant stakeholders were accommodated and reported on all the concerns that was raised in support or opposed to ensure everyone's view is noted and represented.

The recommendations are based on data collected and analyzed done with the help of Professor Benjamin Mapani from NUST. We made a number of critical recommendations that I believe will assist us as a nation to better manage our precious natural resources. I therefore urge all of you, Hon Members of this august House to peruse through the report to better understand and appreciate the views of the electorate for us to make informed decisions. As legislatures, the laws that we pass in the House are meant to improve the livelihood of all Namibians, thus they are as good as the people who enforce them for all people to benefit and protect the vulnerable in the society.

1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1. REFERRAL OF THE PETITION

Save the Okavango's Unique Lifestyle (SOUL) an alliance of local and international civil society organization, scientists and activists submitted a Petition on 24 February 2021 titled '**Keeping oil drilling and fracking out of the Okavango'** being done by Reconnaissance Energy Namibia **(REN)** in search of Oil and Gas. After the initial petition, two more petitions were received from Civil Society Organizations in Namibia and from Fridays for Future of Windhoek also seeking for similar relief.

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Constitutional and Legal Affairs is mandated to receive all Petitions and if the Committee so deem necessary depending on the nature of the matter will recommend to Standing Rules and Orders (SRO) to refer it to a relevant Standing Committee. In light of the aforesaid, the three Petitions were all referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Natural Resources in terms of Rule 93 (c) of Standing Rules and Orders. The Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST) on request from the Committee, availed Professor Benjamin Mapani, a lecturer in the Department of Mining and Engineering to assist in the provision of technical services and guidance in the preparation of the final report.

1.2 MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE

The Standing Committee on Natural Resources has the duty to;

(a) Consider any matter it deems relevant with regard to the Offices, Ministries, Agencies, and all State-owned Enterprises and Parastatals responsible for the following category of affairs which shall, inter alia, include: Agriculture, Water and Forestry; Environment, and Tourism; Fisheries and Marine Resources; Mines and Energy and Land Reform.

(b) **Monitor, enquire into, and make recommendations to the Assembly on matters that may directly or indirectly affect the natural resources of the Republic of Namibia and its people;**

(c) Operate with a vision to promote sustainable utilization of Namibia's natural resources;

(d) Review and advice the National Assembly on the activities and matters related to the agriculture, water and forestry;

(e) Ensure that government put restraint on environmental degradation and protect the environment;

(f) Review and advice the National Assembly on matters related to mines and energy sectors;

(g) Ensure a fair distribution of farming land and productive utilization of it in Namibia;

1.3. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Standing Committee on Natural Resources has 28 Members of Parliament from various political parties represented in the National Assembly.

1.4. METHODOLOGY

To obtain all the necessary information and evidence relevant to the Petitions the Committee resolved to conduct public Hearings, consultative meetings, and site visits in particular to Reconnaissance Energy Namibia operational areas. The hearings were open to the general Public and the Media. To ensure awareness all of the meetings that were conducted, notices were posted on the Parliament website and social media platforms such as Instagram and Facebook. All invited stakeholders were without exemption required to make a presentation and to avail any supporting evidence, documentation to augment their stand on the matter. All key documentations received, form part of this report as annexures.

1.5. OBJECTIVES OF THE ENQUIRY

The Main objectives of conducting the enquiry on the Petitions were to amongst others to:

(a) Investigate issues of key concerns raised by the Petitioners;

(b) Obtain public input on the matter;

(c) To better understand the operations of REN; analyze data/evidence attained in relation to the concerns raised;

(d) Establish compliance of the National Laws by REN and to make informed recommendations to the (House) Assembly.

1.6. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of the report is to inform the National Assembly of the Committee's findings and recommendations on the Petitions to stop oil drilling in the Okavango for discussion and adoption.

2. THE PETITIONS

2.1. SAVE THE OKAVANGO'S UNIQUE LIFESTYLE (SOUL)

SOUL is an alliance of local and international civil society organization, scientists and activists promoting social, climate and environmental justice. Their Petition outlines that Namibia is a water deficit country which enjoys on average 350 mm rain per year which is less than half of the world average of 800mm. As such much of Namibia's water resources is underground and to an extent on water from the Kavango River, thus they argue oil drilling will end up contaminating this precious resource.

SOUL is concerned with the use of hydraulic fracking in the exploration, impacts on flora and fauna, environmental impacts, air pollution and health impacts among others. **(Annex 1)**

2.2. FRIDAYS FOR FUTURE WINDHOEK

The Petition was initially submitted to the German Government to intervene in the oil and gas exploration by RECON Africa. The argument for submitting it to the German government was premised on the fact that the Government through the KfW Development Bank is financing the preservation of Kavango-Zambezi Trans frontier Conservation Area (KAZA) to the tune of 35.5 million Euros. The main concern of the petition is that the drilling will destroy the sensitive ecosystem of one the largest and most animal rich wetlands in Africa and the direct impact it will have on the native San who reside in the area. Fridays for the Future is concerned Shale development in the Kavango basin will contribute to more methane emissions and thus derail the country's efforts to fulfil its climate obligations under the Paris Agreement of which Namibia is signatory. **(Annex 2)**

2.3. CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS (CSOs)

The Petition was submitted by 52 Civil Society Organizations in Namibia ranging from forest associations, HIV/AIDs, Youth organizations, Churches, Women organizations and many more. Their arguments based on number of issues one being the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) that they argue is incomplete and the absence of a strategic impact assessment.

In addition, the CSOs are concerned of the environmental impacts and as an alternative prefer the use of renewable energy a common alternative among all the three petitioners. **(Annex 3)**

2.4. RELIEF BEING SOUGHT BY THE PETITIONERS

Common relief being sought by all the Petitioners are:

2.4.1. *Immediate Moratorium on ALL Oil & Gas Exploration Activities in the Okavango*

2.4.2. *Commissioning of A Transboundary & Multi-National Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Entire Oil Development Life Cycle*

3. STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTATIONS

The Committee held meetings with stakeholders in Windhoek and also undertook a fact-finding mission to Kavango East and West regions.

3.1. SOUL AND OTHER PETITIONERS

The Committee had a meeting with the above-mentioned Petitioners on 15 June 2021 in Windhoek to gather more information and evidence on their plight. Their main concerns were among others:

3.1.1. RECON is not a reputable company; the Company has no proven track record of success;

3.1.2. Consultations with Local Communities was not sufficient.

3.1.3. Grabbing land without owner's consent is contrary to existing laws as well as operating without leasehold in terms of Communal Land Reform Act, (Act 5 of 2002).

3.1.4. Absence of Seismic data to guide the drilling.

3.1.5. Harmful emissions of methane from active oil and gas wells will derail the country in fulfilling the provisions of the 2015 Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

3.1.6. Job creation will be minimal, as the majority of jobs expected will be taken up by expatriates due to the highly specialized nature of the industry.

3.1.7. Recon Africa using water without water permits as required by the Water Resource Management Act of 1956.

3.1.8. The impacts of fracking, the wastewater injection wells that can cause earthquakes & aquifer contamination.

3.1.9. Huge impact on the Flora and Fauna, deforestation due to clearing of huge swaths of land for wells, pipelines, access roads and the critical impact on wildlife habitat. Animal routes will be disturbed as a result tourism likely to suffer.

3.2. COURTESY CALL REGIONAL GOVERNOR OF KAVANGO EAST

The Governor briefed the delegation about the political situation in the Region which he described as stable. He informed the delegation that his Office has received three Petitions, one from Residents not happy with RED Force contract with the Town Council to collect debts owed to the Council, and another on the Genocide Reparations and the last from the Sambyu community on the unresolved appointment of a traditional leader.

The Governor was appreciative of Government investing in Green Schemes which have provided employment to many.

However, he was not happy with status quo of Uvungu - vungu dairy project which is a white elephant after spending so much money putting up expensive machinery. About Reconnaissance Energy Namibia, the Governor is fully in supportive of the project and assured the delegation that all affected people were duly consulted including the regional leadership. He was not aware of a Petition against RECON Africa operations in the region nor was his Office consulted about it.

3.3. Meeting with Reconnaissance Energy Namibia (REN)

3.3.1. Background

Recon-Africa is a Canadian company exploring oil and gas potential in the Kavango Sedimentary Basin one of the largest undeveloped onshore basins in the world. It's headquartered in Canada, with offices in Rundu and Windhoek. The company, through subsidiaries Reconnaissance Energy Namibia (REN) and Reconnaissance Energy Botswana (REB), obtained exploration licenses representing a total of 8.5 million acres of which 6.3 million acres or 25,500 square kilometers are in Namibia. The company has partnered with state-owned NAMCOR under a Joint Operating Agreement (10% stake by NAMCOR, with costs carried by Recon-Africa until commercialization).

3.3.2. Wells Drilled

To date, two stratigraphic wells have been drilled in Kavango East (Kawe and Mbambi), showing clear evidence there is a working conventional petroleum basin, and additional wells are planned for 2021/2022.

A 2D seismic program is currently in progress over a 450 line km coverage to further validate stratigraphic findings. The Committee was informed that REN is not fracking and has no license to conduct hydraulic fracking, it is a conventional oil and gas resource.

3.3.3. Regulatory Compliance

In terms of regulatory compliance, in 2019, Recon-Africa submitted an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for its drilling program to the Environmental Commissioner in Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism via Petroleum Commissioner. The Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) for the drilling program was granted by the line Ministry in August 2019. REN subsequently submitted an EIA and EMP for its 2D seismic program, with the ECC granted by the government in July 2021.

The EIA and EMP processes included extensive engagement with communities, local and regional governments, Traditional Authorities, Conservancies, and other interested stakeholders.

REN operations are guided by Namibia's sustainable development initiatives: *Vision 2030; Harambee Prosperity Plans 1 & 2; National Development Plan 5.* In addition, the Committee was informed that Recon-Africa has established an Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) & Carbon Neutral strategy, with concrete performance indicators to demonstrate its progress. The company is confident that should commercial oil bear fruit Namibia stands to benefit a lot in terms jobs; royalties; corporate income tax; additional profits tax; annual land rental payments; training payments; goods and services spending and infrastructure development.

3.3.4. Social Responsibility

In terms of social responsibility eight community water wells have been drilled and donated by Reconnaissance Energy Namibia, with four more water wells in progress. There are plans to drill and donate an additional 12 solar-powered community water wells. REN contributed N$15-million to COVID-19 relief in Namibia announced in June 2021.

3.3.5. Job Creation

Recon-Africa employs a strict local hire and service-provision approach, considering constituency first, followed by local, regional, and national labour markets. To date, Reconnaissance Energy Namibia (REN) has employed more than 300 Namibian residents, with plans to employ hundreds more as the project evolves.

Records seen by the Committee shows that Locals (from the two regions) a total of 432 (78%), Nationals (whole country) a total of 62 (11%) and Expatriates are 58 (11%) out of a total workforce of 552 employed in varied categories. **(Annex 4 and 5)**

3.3.6. Compensation Policy

REN has developed its own Compensation Procedure by taking the Republic of Namibia's Compensation Policy Guideline for Communal Land as a guidance to determine how it will compensate individuals. The Compensation take into consideration the following:

Value of Improvements; Cultivated/Uncultivated Land; Fruit Bearing Trees; Structures and other items from and around the homestead and otherwise deemed to be compensable. In comparison with the country's compensation policy it offers more as illustrated below;

Land (without the additional 15% land access fee, and 15% disturbance allowance)

Land	Proposed Rate in Republic of Namibia Compensation Policy Guidelines for Communal Land of 2008 (NAD/ha)	Proposed Compensation by ReconNamibia (NAD/ha) (85% or more increase for REN rates)
Cultivated Land	5,000.00	$ 9,250.00
Uncultivated Land	2,500.00	$ 4,625.00

Source: REN

3.3.7. Committee Observations

a) The Committee noted that REN started operating in January 2021 without leasehold except a consent letter from the Sambyu Traditional Authority which was ironically only issued in March 2021.
b) Furthermore, REN drilled boreholes without the Water Permits in clear contravention of the Water Act. (Act No. 54 of 1956). The water permits were only issued in June 2021 long after REN has already drilled the boreholes.

c) The Committee did not verify the employment figures provided with the relevant authorities due to time constraints attributed to the late submission of records.

3.4. Courtesy call on the Hambukushu Traditional Authority

Fumu Munika Mbambo welcomed the delegation and appreciated the visit to the Royal Palace.

He informed the delegation that he was not aware of the Petition to oppose Recon Africa oil exploration in the region nor was he consulted by the petitioners. He bemoaned the lack of consultation and coordination from central government on how the issue of REN was handled. REN however did consult the Fumu on 8 September 2021 to inform him that its operations might reach his area of jurisdiction.

The Fumu welcomes any development that will benefit the people and uplift their living standards, cognizant of the fact that Mukwe is one of the poorest constituencies in Kavango East.

He informed the delegation that the Council of Traditional Leaders in the two Regions will meet to further deliberate on the issue and speak with one voice. He emphasized that if it's for the development of the region and its people, they will support it.

If oil or gas is found, the Fumu urged central government to ensure that, the production must be done in Kavango or Namibia and no raw minerals should be processed outside the country. He stated that those opposed to the project when in their countries they produce oil and gas and are developed have ulterior motives for Kavangos to remain a laughingstock of Namibia, year in year out it is the poorest, while having resources of oil and gas that would even contribute to the country's GDP and alleviate poverty.

3.5. Meeting with Mukwe Constituency Councillor and affected community

The meeting was held at Frans- Dimbare Multipurpose Centre with more than 30 members of the public in attendance. All in attendance were aware of the operations of Recon Africa in the region. The majority in attendance welcomed the project, arguing that the benefits it will bring and by far outweighs the disadvantages to discard it.

People will get jobs to support their families, it will also uplift the regions' economy and further inspire the future generation to study engineering and other fields associated with mining.

Those in support were of the view that the impacts being advanced can be managed to a minimum, adaptation, mitigation are key in such circumstances in accordance with the Namibian Environmental Laws.

In contrast a few were opposed to the exploration, arguing that it will impact the quality of ground water, pass through fields thereby reducing food security, wildlife will be affected, and deforestation will occur to clear the way for the project. In addition, they countered the provision of employment with the fact that only minimal opportunities will be available since the oil industry is highly skilled, very few, if any have such qualifications in Namibia. Rather they advocated for government to resort to renewable energy sources to save the environment and reduce the country's carbon footprint.

3.5.1. Committee Observation

Though there was opposition in some quarters, those in support were in the majority. The community is well aware of REN operations in the region as well as the potential benefits and impacts to the environment. Consultations were done long after REN started operations in the Region.

3.6. Courtesy call with the Senior Traditional Counsellor and Land Committee of the Gciriku Traditional Authority (Ndiyona Traditional Authority Centre).

Senior Councilor Festus Linyando welcomed the delegation to visit the traditional authority. He was aware of REN and its activities in the region, he said that both the regional Governor and the company itself visited him on 8 September 2021 to inform him about the oil and gas exploration.

He was assured by Recon and the Regional Authority that there will be no environmental degradation, and as such the Gciriku Traditional Authority fully supports the project. In addition, he called for a comparative study with other oil producing countries to benchmark on best practices in order to minimize any environmental impacts that may occur.

The Senior Councilor was however not satisfied with the way the local communities stand to benefit with government through NAMCOR getting 10 % shareholding and communities nothing. He further informed the delegation the 5 traditional leaders of the two regions are due to meet to discuss how they, too should get shares in the company once commercial oil is discovered. The Gciriku Traditional Authority leadership were not aware of the Petition to oppose the project, so was the constituency councilor.

3.7. Meeting with the Constituency Councilor and affected community- Ndiyona

All the community members in attendance were aware of REN and its oil and gas exploration activities in the region. The majority were in support of the project given the benefits that it will bring in the form of employment, infrastructure development and the provision of water.

In opposing the project, the leader of the Petitioners and Chairperson of Kavango Forest Association queried the leasehold certificate, water permits as to when they were obtained, in his view the company did not follow the rules and started operating without leasehold.

In addition, he claimed the company in its EIA for the seismic survey promised not to construct any new roads of which they did not abide by.

Members of conservancies and community forest in the region who were present distanced themselves from the Chairperson's led Petition and instead publicly supported the project disowning assertions that they were part of the meeting that agreed on the Petition.

3.7.1. Committee Observations

The main Petitioners the Kavango East and West Regional Conservancy and Community Forest Association and some of its members were not united in opposing REN activities in the region.

The members differed with the association's stand whilst at the same time distanced themselves from the Petition. The Committee also noted lack of coordination, awareness among the association Members which created a visible division in their group.

3.8. Meeting with Senior Traditional Councilor of Shambyu Traditional Authority and Land Committee Members

The delegation was welcomed to the traditional authority office by the senior headman Kosmas Makanga who acknowledged REN has visited the authority before they started with the exploration in June and October 2020. He confirmed that the traditional authority accepted REN and have given written consent letter for the company to use the land in a letter that was issued on **1 March 2021. It appears consent letter was an afterthought by REN**. The Authority informed the delegation that contrary to news reports, not a single person or village(s) were relocated. Meetings were conducted with affected communities none of them were opposed to the project.

The only objection it received was from the Kalenga family who claimed the area (Mbambi) belonged to their grandparents, this was however proven false as none of them substantiate or could prove their claim to the traditional authority. The family has since instituted a court case against the Company and the Traditional Authority.

The Traditional Authority informed the delegation that the project was approved by central government, and they had very little influence to stop it even if they were not in favour. He stated that consultations with them only started after the license was already granted. He said a meeting could be called earlier for consultation to happen well before the license was issued to hear and allow for the views and suggestions of the Traditional Authorities.

3.8.1. Committee Observation

a) The Traditional Authority was consulted after the license was already issued to REN. The Committee is of the view that consultations were supposed to start even before license was issued by the Ministry of Mines and Energy given the fact that the consent to use the land lies with the Traditional Authority.

b) The consent to use the land was given on 1 March 2021 whereas REN started operating in January 2021.

c) The question is who authorized REN to start operating without having first complied with all the legal requirements such as obtaining a consent letter, water permits and leasehold. The Committee could not establish who authorized the go ahead neither REN nor OMAs that were consulted were willing to divulge information to this effect.

3.9. Meeting with Rundu Rural Constituency Councilor and affected communities

The meeting had representation from the community of the affected areas from Mbambi, Kawe, Makandina, and Ncaute in addition to the interested members of the public and the media in who were attendance.

The attendees including the constituency councilor were all aware of REN and its exploration activities in the region, with the councilor having been invited to launch in 2019. None of the attendees was aware of the Petition against the project officially, only what they have heard and seen in the media. It was also made clear that community meetings took place, and regional authority were consulted, and that no relocation took place.

The village headmen's of Kawe, Mbambi, Ncaute, and Makandina all voiced their support for the project whilst discarding claims of environmental impacts and non-consultation. They complimented REN Africa for providing them with boreholes for both human and animal use, the support to local schools in terms of stationery and computers in addition to the employment of local people.

They further made a plea for the government to ensure that if the oil is commercially found, it should be processed in Namibia, value addition will ensure improved benefits.

They further confirmed that REN has been consulting them at every stage of the drilling including the seismic survey. The issue of community beneficiation was also raised that government should come up with a formula to ensure community or traditional authorities' shareholding. The community informed the delegation of environmental activists who frequently visit them trying to convince them not to support the project citing environmental concerns.

3.9.1. Committee Observations

That there is overwhelming support for the project to continue based on economic and social benefits it will and has brought to residents of Kawe, Mbambi, and other areas across the two Regions.

3.10. Courtesy Call on the Hompa of the Uukwangali Traditional Authority

Hompa Eugene Siwombe Kudumo welcomed the delegation to the Palace. He acknowledged that REN did consult him on 7 September 2021 to inform him about their exploration activities in the region. He informed the delegation that REN has so far drilled 5 boreholes in Kavango West for the benefit of local communities. The Hompa sees no harm in exploring for oil, in his view the advantages of having oil and gas outweighs the disadvantages.

He foresees employment creation as one of the key benefits which will alleviate poverty and improve the overall living standards of the people. As it was the case with other traditional leaders, he too was not made aware of any petition opposing the operations of Recon Africa apart from what he reads in the media nothing was brought officially to his attention.

3.11. Meeting with Constituency Councilor Ncuncuni and affected communities

The meeting took place at Gcaru village in Ncuncuni Constituency with affected communities and the regional councilor Hon Leopoldine Nseu. The community were well aware of REN and its exploration activities.

They registered their undivided support to the project that has so far provided 2 boreholes, and other support in terms of school materials and recreational facilities. Consultations took place on 24 January 2021 and in April 2021. The community has not heard of any petition from the region against Recon Africa. They informed the delegation that REN normally asks for consent to pass through their fields, and villages; hence a consent form is signed for payment of access fees, though no one has been paid to date. The Community also revealed that environmentalist have visited them on several occasions to persuade them to not support the project.

3.11.1. Committee Observation

The Committee observed that communities were not fully informed by REN, and what the consent forms for land access entails. REN has not informed the affected community Members of how much they will be paid in terms of access fees, and none has been paid to date.

3.12. Courtesy call to the Hompa of the Mbunza Traditional Authority

Hompa Alfons Kaundu welcomed the delegation to the palace and affirmed having met with REN on 11 August 2021. He appreciated the road they rehabilitated though it's not tarred it has made movement of people easier. Contrary to reports circulating, the Hompa informed the delegation that the road was not a new one they only rehabilitated it.

The Hompa fully supports the project provided it benefits his subjects when the company is working in his area of jurisdiction.

He has not heard of any petition from the regions against the oil drilling done by REN. He urged politicians to find common ground and unite on projects that will contribute to the growth of the country's economy.

3.13. Hearing with the Ministry of Mines and Energy

The hearing took place on 12 October 2021 with the Executive Director of the Ministry of Mines and Energy along with the Petroleum Commissioner and management staff. It was explained that all areas in Namibia are open for bidding on the unlicensed offshore and onshore areas. The licensing process stages was explained from application, evaluation, negotiations on the terms and conditions, payment of the relevant fees and the award. REN was no exception; the company went through the same process that led to the awarding of the exploration license on 29 January 2015 due to expire 25 January 2022.

In regard to the shareholding, REN has 90% and the Government 10 % held by NAMCOR.

To date the company has spent US$ 40 million, US$14.3 million of that was spend in Namibia. Government revenue flow from the project were N$ 7.6 million during the initial period, N$12.2 million first renewal period and N$5.2 million contribution to Petro fund.

The initial period 2015-2018 Recon was to collect existing surface and subsurface geological data; Reprocessing and interpretation of all geological and geophysical data; geochemical soil sampling and analysis; Data integration; Conduct EIA for both drilling and seismic acquisition and Acquire 500 km of 2D seismic data or drill 2 stratigraphic test wells. First renewal period 2020-2021 to Acquire 250 km 2D seismic data; Drill 2 Stratigraphic wells and Design and Plan 3D seismic acquisition. Second renewal period 2022-2023 to Acquire 200 km2 3D seismic data; Process and interpret acquired 3D data and Drill 1 test well.

In terms of benefits brought by REN, so far more than 250 locals have been employed as Electricians, Health, Safety and Environment Specialists, Project Managers, Administrative Assistants, General workers, and Roughnecks.

In terms of suppliers, the following categories have benefited, Water wells (Boreholes) Drilling Companies, Medical service providers, Human Resources and Contracting Management, Logistics and Transport Service Companies, Engineering and Project Management and Construction – (Drilling operation campsite construction). Economic Benefits will include among others:

- Government Revenue; expected revenue from Royalty and Petroleum Income Tax
- GDP Growth and Balance of Payments, Reduction in liquid fuel import and increase foreign currency from oil export
- Job Creation, Namibians to be employed in the oil sector and service industries
- Development of Infrastructure, Construction of water infrastructures for local communities, Roads and rail to services oil development and communities
- Socio-Economic Development, Growth in economic activities in the Kavango region

To-date about 40 regulatory and stakeholder engagement activities have been conducted by REN and the Environmental Consultants. The Ministry of Mines and Energy has participated in some of these Community Engagements. **(Annex 6)**

3.13.1. Committee Observation

a) The Ministry has awarded the license without consulting key stakeholders such as the custodian of the land the Traditional Authorities and the Land Board. This was evident in the hearing conducted by the Committee.
b) Traditional authorities registered their dissatisfaction with the process.
c) REN has no license to do fracking as it was not part of the license issued to them.

3.14. Hearing with the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform

The hearing took place on 19 October 2021 with the Acting Executive Director and management staff in attendance. The Ministry acknowledged Recon Africa did not apply for water use permits at first though they drilled 6 water abstraction boreholes to date 2 for project operations and, 4 for the communities. **The permits were only issued in June 2021 whereas the company started operating in January 2021 contrary to the Water Act. (Act No. 54 of 1956) and the Water Resources Management Act. (Act No 11 of 2013).** Verification of the on-site activities to determine and advice on policy requirements which have not been met by Reconnaissance Energy Namibia (Pty) Ltd, as well as to assess the possible impacts of the on-going activities on the water environment was done.

Among the checklist was water quality analysis prior to human consumption; Groundwater level and quality monitoring and drilling method. Though there is no water quality and groundwater level monitoring strategy in place, Recon Namibia has drawn up a water monitoring plan to be incorporated into the Environmental Management Plan.

The permits were issued on 18 June 2021 after Recon Africa has met all the requirements in line with the Water Act of 1956.

With regard to the Risk of Aquifer contamination; stratigraphic test borehole drilling makes use of mud rotary drilling method which poses no risk of groundwater contamination, mud pits are lined with bentonite floor and plastic lining all aquifers are cased off by two steel casings.

In spite of the company having started using water without permits, no penalty was issued for the violation rather they were asked to comply and apply for the permits. One month was given to the company in February 2021 to apply of which failure will result in the Boreholes to be sealed off. Data provided shows that Recon only applied in June and the permits were also issued during the same month.

The Water Act, (Act No. 54 of 1956) provide that water for domestic supply purposes no permit is required, however for industrial purposes Recon Namibia was supposed to apply for a drilling permit especially for the project boreholes.

The company was advised to apply in advance for the Drilling Permit for all the remaining planned stratigraphic wells, production boreholes for project activities and community boreholes for rural supply. The company must still apply for the Permit for waste water disposal, the Ministry confirmed that it's not yet done.

The sizes of land applied for by Reconnaissance Energy and Namcor are: Mbambi 2.93 Ha: Kawe 3.20 Ha and leasehold period 5 years both. The Applications for a right of leasehold was submitted on 28 June 2021. The Mbambi application is still pending with the Land Board as the Board received objections and there is a pending Court case on the land rights. A Rights of Leasehold application must have a recommendation from the Traditional Authority concerned along with the proof of consultations done with the affected communities. If the lease is below 10 years, and the land is less than 100 hectares the Minister's approval is not required.

The Ministry informed the Committee that Land Boards are independent in the execution of their mandate with little to no influence from the Ministry except in cases were the Minister has to intervene as provided for in terms of the Act. **(Annex 7)**

3.14.1. Committee Observations

a) The land board has the powers to stop operations of any company if it is established that they failed to comply with the law. For example; operating without a leasehold in the case of Recon Africa. However, in this case the land board failed to execute their mandate, and Recon Africa continued operating since January without any leasehold. The Committee is of the view that the mandate of land boards needs to be revised as they seem to operate with impunity no checks and balances.

b) The Ministry Officials also failed to carry out their duties in implementing the provisions of the Water Act of 1956 by not instituting punitive measures on REN for failing to obtain water permits beforehand. In addition, the Ministry failed to exercise their mandate for letting REN to initially refuse them entry to the drilling site. Secondly, the official's failure to report to their seniors on the refusal for intervention raises the Committee's concerns about the seriousness of the officials.

c) The absence of water quality and groundwater level monitoring strategy is also a concern in case the ground water becomes contaminated it will be difficulty to determine.

3.15. Hearing with Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism

The hearing took place on 26 October 2021 with the Executive Director and senior management team. The Ministry informed the Committee that Recon Africa complied with the Environmental Management Act. (Act No 7 of 2007) before the Environmental Clearance Certificate was awarded.

The Environmental Impact Assessment was also done in line with the law. In both instances, consultations took place in the affected regions to obtain public input, and as the practice it is mandatory to comply with the law. In addition, the company submitted an environmental management plan that outlines measures that would be taken in mitigating environmental damages which likely might ~~to~~ occur. Furthermore, the company is obliged to submit bi-annual reports on the implementation of the environmental management plan to the ministry for verification and scrutiny. As a backup the law allows for external review in instances where the Environmental Commissioner is not satisfied with outcome of the process.

The Ministry further clarified that the information being circulated in the Media that the Company is exploring in a preserved area namely the Okavango Delta as misleading information. The Delta is about 260 kilometers away from where Recon Africa is operating and is not in Namibia but in Botswana. The area on which the license was granted is not a migratory route for wild animals, it's outside protected areas. **(Annex 8)**

3.15.1. Committee Observations

a) The Committee noted that environmental assessment reports are only available at Head Office on request, therefore not accessible to communities in affected areas. The Committee would like for these reports to be made available to the Regional Councils and Traditional Authority for the access of ~~by~~ any concerned member of the public.

b) The Ministry could not provide proof of them having consulted Traditional Authorities in the two regions, records which was provided show only consultations with Regional Governors and the Regional Council structures.

c) The use of newspapers to advertise any objections, appears not to be effective nor adequate for people, and in particular those in rural communities.

3.16. Namibia Petroleum Corporation (NAMCOR)

The hearing took place on 26 October 2021, it was attended by the Chairperson of the Board of Directors and senior management staff. To date about 40 Licenses have been issued by the Ministry of Mines and Energy both Offshore and Onshore activities.

NAMCOR holds about 98% shareholding in over 40 Licenses issued by the Ministry ranging from 10-15% shareholding. NAMCOR's 10% license shareholding is free carried by Recon Africa until first production. The Joint Operations Agreement (JOA) was signed in June 2021 after long negotiation with Recon Africa, the JOA governs operation/relationship with Recon Africa.

The shareholding has benefited NAMCOR in terms of capacity building, no dividends received at the current stage of exploration until when production starts. In case commercial oil is discovered:

- No evidence could be provided as who and how much benefits Namibians would get from the so-called capacity building;
- Committee could also not establish how NAMCOR is benefiting from its 98% shareholding in the over 40 licenses. It appears to be a mere paper exercise, as is the case with its 10% share in REN. The Committee found this very disturbing and extremely misleading and deceiving.

NAMCOR did a financial forecast in trying to determine the value of its 10% they are currently holding against share prices of RECON Africa from 2015 to present as illustrated in the table below; **(Annex 9)**

Description	Close share price (USD)	Market value (USD)
Fair value of shares – 29 January 2015 (Awarded the PEL 73 by Mines and Energy)	0.06	9, 625, 896
Fair value of shares – 15 April 2021 (Drilling: First of the three wells)	5.52	885, 582, 393
Fair value of shares – 05 May 2021 (Drilling: Second well)	10.29	1, 650, 841, 092
Fair value of shares – 03 June 2021 (Drilling: First section of the second well)	9.44	1, 514, 474, 237
Fair value of shares: Namcor and ReconAfrica sign the JOA – 14 June 2021	9.42	1, 511, 265, 606
Fair value of shares – 30 June 2021	11.74	1, 883, 466, 902
Fair value of shares: Namcor and ReconAfrica complete the drilling operation on the second well – 14 July 2021	10.79	1, 731, 056, 888
Fair value of shares – 27 July 2021	10.94	1, 755, 121, 627
Calculation of the market value of the 10% in PEL 73		
The market value of ReconAfrica allocated to PEL 73 - 27 July 2021		877, 560, 814
10% of Namcor Exploration and Production in PEL 73		87, 756, 081

3.16.1. **Committee Observation**

a) The percentage shareholding by NAMCOR is negotiated by the Ministry of Mines and Energy with the investing companies, there is no policy or regulation governing the shareholding structure. No rationale as to which criteria used by the Ministry to determine the 10% shareholding awarded to NAMCOR.

b) The Committee was concerned that REN based on the rise of its shares at the stock exchange, is raising money using Namibian resources while NAMCOR's 10% shareholding is not worthy something.

c) The lack of a policy to guide the Ministry in its negotiations with companies deprives the government from getting improved deals in shareholding and is done in conflict with Article 100 of the Namibian Constitution.

3.17. Hearing with Kavango East Land Board

The Chairperson of the Land Board at the time on 24 September 2021 informed the delegation that he was not in a position to discuss issues related to Recon as the Board was still dealing with its applications for leasehold and land rights.

The Committee requested copies of the applications to verify as to when the application was submitted and when it was advertised in the newspapers. Regrettably, the Board has continuously dodged (avoided) the Committee to provide this information. The Committee wrote a letter to the Board to attend a hearing on 23 November ~~of~~ to which they complied.

The Land Board was led by its Chairperson Mr. Bernadino Mbumba and nine other board Members. He informed the hearing that Recon Africa submitted two land rights applications to the board, one for Occupational Land Rights and the other for Leasehold Right. The applications received on 16 April 2021 were made for Kawe and Mbambi Villages situated in the Rundu Rural Constituency. They were advertised on 14 May 2021 in New Era newspaper in line with Section 36B and Regulation 2 of the Communal Land Rights Act of 2002. Upon presentation to the Board on 4 June 2021 it was found that REN does not qualify for Occupational Land Rights. Twenty-two (22) objections from individuals and NGOs were also received. The corrected applications were received on June 28, 2021 applying for land the size of 3, 20 Ha for Kawe and 2, 93 Ha for Mbambi. The applications were advertised on 9 July 2021 in New Era.

Three objections were registered from the Legal Assistance Centre (LAC), the Conservancy and the Chamber of Environment. The concerns of the three objections centered on environmental damages and consultation with the affected communities.

The objections were resolved in accordance with CLRA No.5 of 2002, regulation 11(3) (b). Both applications for Kawe and Mbambi were discussed by the board from 2-3 September 2021.

3.17. 1. Kawe Application

Upon submission of proof from the Shambyu Traditional Authority that consultations as per the concerns raised were done, the Board in accordance with Section 33(1) of the CLRA registered the rights for Kawe on September 28-29, 2021. REN and Namcor received Certificate **NO KAVCLB-ROL-000725** on September 30 2021.

7.17.2. Mbambi Application

The Application for Mbambi is on hold due to claims of existing customary land rights. The family claiming the land have opened a court case in the High Court case No. HC-MD-CIV-MOT-GEN-2021/00144. As a result of the aforesaid the application did not comply with Section 31(2) of CLRA.

The Chairperson bemoaned the lack of sectoral coordination among the OMAs who are involved with Recon Africa.

The Ministry of Mines and Energy did not comply with regulation 30(1) of the CLRA to inform the Board and the Traditional Authority of the intention to apply for and Gas exploration before such applications were brought by REN. Furthermore, the Board as an important Stakeholder did not participate in the EIA process. Approval was done by central government without consulting the land board. **(Annex 10)**

3.17.1. **Committee Observations**

a) The Land Board failed to execute their mandate by not instituting applicable punitive measures against REN as per the provisions of the Communal Land Act.

b) The granting of the required licenses to REN without consulting the Land Board is attributable to their failure to act. Land Boards operate as an autonomy, no oversight body to do checks and balances on their work.

4. MAIN FINDINGS

4.1. Consultations with relevant stakeholders

More than 40 regulatory and stakeholder engagement activities have been conducted by Recon-Africa and the Environmental Consultants together with the Ministry of Mines and Energy.

Over 2774 community members have attended REN's community engagement meetings from July 2021 to October 2021, in total 320 meetings were held. Documentary proof of the engagement meetings with the different stakeholder inclusive of affected communities, local leadership and Traditional Leaders is in possession of the Committee.

However, the other four (04) Traditional Authorities were only consulted in August and September 2021, six months after REN begun its activities. The Committee views this as an afterthought action on the part of Recon and the OMAs involved as they were supposed to consult all Traditional Authorities first before anyone else.

In addition, the Committee's view is that the engagement meetings were not consultative in nature but rather informative meeting to create awareness of the company's presence in the region. The communities could not at such meetings make or alter any decisions already taken at central government with the issuance of licenses to the company.

4.2. Compliance with National Laws

4.2.1. Employment of Locals

RECON Africa has a Recruitment Policy in place based on the Labour Act. (Act No 11 of 2007); The Affirmative Action (Employment) Act, 1998 Act. (Act No.29 of 1998) and Social Security Commission Act. (Act. No 34 of 1994).

Namibian citizens in general receive preference to expatriates. However, because of Recon-Africa areas of operation which are the Kavango East and the Kavango West regions, people from these two regions are prioritized. Non-Namibians are only recruited once proven that no suitably qualified Namibian citizen (s) are readily available with an understudy.

REN's approach to employment include that employment opportunities within a specific communal area first be offered at a constituency level, followed by a local and regional approach. Should no suitable candidate be found, the larger constituency which is the Republic of Namibia becomes the priority field for vacancies. No non-Namibian will be allowed to take up employment with Recon-

Africa if he/she is not in possession of a valid work permit, or permanent residence permit, allowing him/her to work in Namibia. Current records seen by the Committee shows that Locals (from the two regions) account for 431 out of a total workforce of 552.

4.2.2. Water Permits

The Committee has evidence and testimony from all concerned stakeholders that Water Permits were issued on 18 June 2021, 5 months after the Company had already started operations in January 2021. The application for permits were also made in June 2021. Therefore, it is the Committee's view that Recon Africa failed to comply with the Water Act No. 54 of 1956 and the Water Resources Management Act of 2013 and should have been penalized as per the provisions of the law.

The Committee also found that the Ministry have acted in a manner that can be construed as favoritism for failing to take action on the company despite drilling unsanctioned boreholes. The ministry official failed to perform their duties and did not institute penalties applicable to such violations. The Committee is extremely dismayed and condemn the attitude REN displayed for refusing entry to the Ministry Officials to the drilling sites. The refusal to access the sites clearly indicate the Ministry is not acting as per their mandate. Ministry Officials are mandated to visit company sites in execution of their duties and thus should not have been hindered, all companies need to be made aware about this important mandate of the ministry.

4.2.3. Occupational Land Rights and Leasehold

The Committee based on evidence at hand and confirmations from the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and land Reform and the Land Board of Kavango East found that Recon started operating without the required leasehold. The applications were received by land board on 28 June 2021 and ratified on 18 October 2021. To date only one of Recon applications that of Kawe has been approved in September 2021 whereas the one for Mbambi is still outstanding, yet the Company is operating.

The Committee is extremely disappointed with the Ministry and in particular the Kavango East Land Board who failed in their duty to take appropriate actions applicable to such violations. The Committee is of the opinion that the absence of a body to do checks and balances on the activities of the Board in any way, contributed to their failure. Land Boards, just as the Ministry explained are autonomous entities with no interference or influence from anyone, thus rendering them to operate with impunity without being accountable to any one

is very improper. No land was occupied in accordance to the Communal Land Act.

4.3. Contamination of Ground water

The Committee did not come across any evidence of underground water contamination. In regard to the Risk of Aquifer contamination, stratigraphic test borehole drilling makes use of mud rotary drilling method which poses no risk to groundwater contamination, mud pits are lined with bentonite floor and plastic lining all aquifers are cased off by two steel casings. Wells were drilled with organic and biodegradable water-based drilling fluids and using the most effective casing and materials to ensure complete protection of all water sources and aquifers. These facts were confirmed by the Ministry concerned after they carried out an inspection to Recon Africa facilities.

4.4. Land Grabbing and Relocation of Villages

The Ministry of Mines and Energy emphasized the point that the Petroleum License only gives the holder the subsurface rights; as the surface rights remain with land owners. The Ancillary Rights Commission exist to protect the rights of the land owners in respect of petroleum operations (Petroleum Act 1991, as such REN has no right to grab land from anyone. The two (02) sites were identified by local communities and their headmen and endorsed by the Traditional Authority when the consent was given.

The Committee has not found any evidence on the ground nor did it get testimonies from the affected communities to verify land grabbing or any relocation that took place. However, it does not mean that there will be not such actions should commercial oil be discovered; and should that arise, those relocated persons will be duly compensated in line with Namibia's Compensation Policy Guideline for Communal Land.

4.5. Impacts on native vegetation, biodiversity and threatened species

The oil drilling operations are located far from environmentally sensitive zones, no drilling is allowed by law in protected areas such as conservancies and National Parks.

Reconnaissance Energy Namibia has committed to conduct exploration and possible production of oil in compliance with environmental regulations stipulated in the Petroleum Agreement. This would allow oil exploration and production activities to co-exist with tourism and other economic activities of the Region. REN is not drilling near migratory routes nor any other area that would adversely impact on wildlife movements. The first drilling site is located approximately 40 km

from the boundary of the Khaudum National Park; 55 km south of Rundu; 50 km south of the Kavango River; and about 260 km from the Okavango Delta in Botswana.

4.6. Harmful Emissions to the Atmosphere – Climate Change

Both Government and REN assured the Committee they recognize that climate change is real and that measures need to be taken to reduce the carbon footprint if we were to attain the 1.5-degree reduction. They recognize the acute importance of being results focused, with extensive environmental and social governance approaches in place.

The world is just beginning a multi-decade transition to greener energy sources, but oil will be needed for several decades to come, especially in the developing world. It's imperative for Namibia to explore the potential of the country's energy resources if we aspire to achieve status of a developed world as per our Vision 2030 developmental plan.

A stable energy industry can be developed in an environmentally responsible manner in Namibia to support the development of much-needed economic and social benefits, as well as investments in conservation and wildlife protection. The Committee Observed that the countries advising us to forego fossil fuel are by themselves developed because of the same resources Oil and Gas. This was confirmed during the visit to communities where foreigners have undertaken unsanctioned visits to dissuade locals from accepting the project.

4.7. Potential human health impacts

The Committee could not establish the claim as most of the alleged health impacts are often experienced during the actual Oil extraction thus the effects can only be determined once commercial oil is found. Health impacts related to contaminated water could not be confirmed either as there has been no water contamination established.

4.8. Conservancy and Forestry Association of Kavango East and West

The main petitioners emanating from Kavango East and West attended a number of the Committee's meetings.

The Committee established for a fact that the association failed to create awareness or to sensitize the regional leadership, Traditional Authorities and communities on their Petition to oppose the oil exploration. The association itself lacked coordination as was evident in meetings held by the Committee in the two regions as other members of the same association distanced themselves from the Petition and instead voiced support for the project.

4.9. Fracking

The Petroleum Exploration license awarded is for conventional oil and gas not for fracking. Fracking is more expensive and complicated process to produce oil or natural gas from non-reservoir rocks. The license holder in this case REN will use environmentally friendly technology to preserve the impacts of environment and water resources. The Committee did not find any evidence that the company use or used fracking on the two wells drilled so far.

4.10. Seismic Data

In July 2021, the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism issued the Environmental Clearance Certificate ("ECC") for the initial 2D seismic program. The program will cover 450 km in the Kavango East and West regions. Activities had already begun when the Committee visited the site and the completion is expected to be over a 6 to 8-week period.

CONCLUSION

The Petition provided the Committee with the opportunity to engage all the relevant stakeholders by obtaining valuable inputs to address the relief being sought by the Petitioners.

It is the Committee's conviction that the objective and mandate extended to it by the House has been executed successfully in an objective, open, fair, and transparent manner. Recon oil and gas exploration in the Kavango East Region has overwhelming support from the Regional leadership, local communities and Traditional Authorities who want to see it to continue operating. As alluded to in the main text of this report the main reasons attributable to the support has more to do with economic and social benefits in terms of employment, and infrastructure development to name but a few.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the Committee's findings, evidence and testimonies which were presented, it recommends as follows;

6.1. The oil and gas exploration has overwhelming support among the locals, Traditional Authority's and Nationals at large, thus the Committee recommends for the continuation of the exploration project to complete the exploration phase. Despite this overwhelming support, all future explorations must be done with full and prior approvals of the land owners, farmers, village communities and consent from Traditional Authorities.

Ministry of Mines and Energy

6.2. Ministry of Mines and Energy to consider Commissioning of a Transboundary and Multi-National Strategic Environmental Assessment for the entire oil development life cycle.

6.3. Ministry of Mines and Energy should initiate the establishment of Committee composed of the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT), Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land and Reform (MEFT) and the Ministry of Mines and Energy to ensure proper monitoring/supervision of all activities of REN.

6.4. Ministry of Mines and Energy to devise strategies that will ensure consultations prior to the awarding of all licenses are done with the Regional leadership, Traditional Authorities and the affected communities to ensure local involvement, openness and transparency.

6.5. Undertake a comparative study to oil producing countries to benchmark on best practices prior to signing new agreements in case commercial oil is discovered, before commencement of the production phase.

The study will provide more insight into the oil industry and its real and perceived effects to assist the Ministry to negotiate a better deal with the company for the benefit of the country and its people especially the local communities.

6.6. The Ministry to do regular monitoring of REN activities to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the license issued.

6.7. To develop or review the current laws or policies to ensure shareholding is not only limited to Central Government; but the Communities and Traditional Authorities in the areas of operations must be considered. This will not only strengthen cooperation it will also enhance trust and instill a sense of ownership among communities and ensure prosperity for all.

6.8. OMAs should review their existing legislations in order to align them with Article 100 of the Namibian Constitution which provides for sovereign ownership of Natural Resources. Ministry must draft a law to give effect to this provision as soon as possible, including how locals will have direct benefit in the Natural Resources in their local areas.

6.9. NAMCOR should on behalf of Government hold 51 % shares of all new companies investing in Natural Resources of the country to derive maximum benefits.

6.10. The Ministry to ensure Value Addition is guaranteed to be done in Namibia in terms of processing of oil and Gas products in the event commercial oil is discovered in Namibia.

6.11. The Ministry should encourage the promotion of investments in Renewable Energy sources to minimize environmental damages caused by fossil fuel.

Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform;

6.12. Review the mandates of Land Boards to be more accountable and transparent in executing their duties. The current status quo solidifies their mandate to operate with ultimate impunity without any oversight on their work.

6.13. Repeal of the 1956 Water Act, (Act No. 54 of 1954) to address gaps in place and for it to comply with the current's trends.

6.14. The Ministry is urged to institute the applicable penalties without any exemption to companies who fail to comply with the laws and regulations of the country

6.15. The Ministry to institute the applicable penalties to Recon Africa for failure to comply with the Communal Land Reform Act, (Act No. 5 of 2002) regulation (45) (2) (b) and the Water Resources Management Act of 2013, part 12 (56) (1).

6.16. Ministry officials should be charged for dishonesty and failure to carry out their assigned duties which constitute incompetence.

6.17. Review the role of the Land Board and their powers/duties in administering Land matters in the Republic of Namibia to promote justice, fairness and efficiency in Land management.

6.18. Review the compensation guide of 2008 to take into account new realities, as the current one seems to be outdated.

Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism

6.19. The Ministry to ensure that Environmental Assessment Reports are made available to the Regional Councils and Traditional Authorities for ease of access by any concerned member of the public.

7. SIGNATURES OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Hon. Tjekero Tweya (Chairperson) .....

Hon. Agnes Mpingana Kafula (Deputy Chairperson) .....

Hon. Gotthard Kandume .....

Hon. Herlinde Tjiveze .....

Hon. Vincent Joseph Mareka .....

Hon Bernadus Swartbooi .....

Hon. Maria Elago .....

Hon. Diederik Vries .....

Hon. Thimotheus Shihumbu .....

Hon. Jan Van Wyk .....

Hon. Gotthard Kasuto .....

Hon. Natangue Ithete .....

Hon. Kletus Karondo .....

Hon. Paula Kooper .....

Hon. Sebastiaan Karupu .....

Hon. Hilaria Mukapuli .....

Hon. Mike Kavekotora .....

Hon. Jan Mukwiilongo .....

Hon. Jerry Ekandjo .....

Hon. Lucia Witbooi .....

Hon. Kazeongere Tjeundo .....

Hon. Apius Auchab .....

Hon. Erastus Shuumbwa .....

Hon. Dr Tangeni Iijambo .....

Hon. Josef Kauandenge .....

Hon. Geoffrey Mwilima .....

Hon. Johanna Kandjimi .....

Hon. Fenni Nanyeni .....

8. ANNEXURES (Separate Document)

Save the Okavango's unique lifestyle (soul); Fridays for future Windhoek; Civil society organizations (CSOs); Presentation Reconnaissance Energy Namibia (REN); Presentation Ministry of Mines and Energy; Presentation NAMCOR; Presentation Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism; Presentation Ministry of

Agriculture and Land Reform; Presentation Kavango East Land Board; REN employment Records; Programme Committee Hearings.