



**REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA**

**OPENING SPEECH BY HON.PENDUKENI IIVULA-ITHANA, MP  
MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION  
ON THE LAUNCH OF THE  
MIGRATION REPORT**

**29 JANUARY 2015**

**Hilton Hotel, Windhoek**

**OPENING SPEECH BY HON MINISTER OF HOME  
AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION**

**ON THE LAUNCH OF THE  
MIGRATION REPORT**

**29 JANUARY 2015,**

---

DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES  
HONOURABLE MINISTERS,  
GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS,  
CAPTAINS OF INDUSTRIES,  
STATISTICIAN GENERAL,  
MANAGEMENT AND STAFF OF THE NSA,  
DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS,  
MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA,  
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

It gives me great pleasure to address you this evening on the important occasion of the launch of the Migration report.

The Migration report is the sixth report produced by the Namibia Statistics Agency based on data from the 2011 Namibia Population and Housing Census. Migration is one of the three factors that affect the population size of a particular geographic area, the other factors are fertility and mortality.

Analytical reports on the situations of fertility and mortality are presented in separate reports which were released in 2014.

**Director of Ceremonies  
Ladies and Gentlemen;**

The migration report provides information on internal and international migration covering both lifetime and short term migrants based on 2011 census data. The report presents evidence on the migration patterns in Namibia to assist policy makers, planners and researchers in the formulation of national development policies, as well as monitoring and evaluating implementation of national development programmes.

**Director of Ceremonies  
Ladies and Gentlemen;**

The main mandate of the Namibia Statistics Agency is to ensure the timely production of relevant and quality statistics that are fit for purpose. The NSA team has executed their mandate with the speedy processing of the Census data and the compilation of several reports. I'm therefore proud to launch this important document this evening.

**Director of Ceremonies  
Ladies and Gentlemen;**

It is heart-warming and an absolute pleasure to inform you that this is the first ever migration report produced in Namibia based on the population and housing census data. I would therefore like to congratulate the NSA team and stakeholders for this great achievement! Well done!

**Director of Ceremonies  
Ladies and Gentlemen;**

The migration report will not be the last report produced based on the 2011 census data. I am informed that the Housing conditions and Disability report based on 2011 census results will be produced very soon.

As the Minister of Home Affairs and Immigration - I have to admit that without census information, it is not possible to understand the full manifestation of population dynamics, in terms of long-term changes in the size, age and sex composition as well as geographical location of the population. A Ministry such as Home Affairs and Immigration cannot manage the national population register and facilitate lawful migration successfully in the absence of such important statistics. The launch of this report therefore benefits not only the stakeholders and the population as a whole, but my Ministry as well.

**Director of Ceremonies  
Ladies and Gentlemen;**

In addition, I would like to inform you that this key Ministry and the Namibia Statistics Agency are hard at task to improve migration statistics especially in the area of international migration. It gives me pleasure to make reference to some significant achievements in this regard.

**Director of Ceremonies  
Ladies and Gentlemen;**

**I would like to reveal already some of the information that is contained in the report:**

This report discloses that one is more likely to cross constituency boundaries than regional boundaries and to reside at a different residence than one's birthplace. Isn't that interesting, ladies and gentlemen?

About forty one thousand residents (41 000) migrated to different regions between 2011 and 2010, whereas seven hundred and seven thousand residents (707 000) migrated to different constituencies in 2011 compared to places of birth. This I assume is mainly attributed to seeking greener pastures elsewhere.

**Director Of Ceremonies  
Ladies and Gentlemen;**

It is interesting to note that at a regional level, internal migration varies across regions. Over forty percent (40%) of those residing in Khomas and Erongo in 2011 were born outside those regions, which suggest net migration flows into those regions from elsewhere. In contrast, more than one in six people born in Ohangwena and Omusati now reside in other regions.

With regard to lifetime migration, Oranjemund constituency in //Karas region has the largest net inflow of about three hundred and sixty percent (360), while Ohangwena constituency in

Ohangwena region have the largest outflow of about forty three (43%) percent.

As to short-term migration Steinhausen in Omaheke region recorded the largest net inflow in 2011 compared to 2010 of about five percent (5%) while Kabbe in Zambezi region recorded the largest outflow of about twenty five percent (25%).

**Director of Ceremonies  
Ladies and Gentlemen;**

The Migration Report further adds – with relations to international migration, more than ninety three thousand residents (93 000) or four point five percent (4.5%) of the population in 2011 were born outside of Namibia.

**The top five countries of the foreign born were:**

1. Angola with thirty eight thousand and seventy six (38,076) foreign born,
2. South Africa with twenty one thousand, two hundred and nine (21,209) foreign born,
3. Zambia with ten thousand, two hundred and ninety nine (10,299) foreign born,

4. Zimbabwe with five thousand, seven hundred and seventy (5,770) foreign born,
5. And the last one is Germany with three thousand, six hundred and seventy (3,670) foreign born.

The report further divulges that the non-citizens are male and concentrated at young and middle-age adults, with larger proportions of both the better and least educated.

In terms of demographic characteristics of Migrants, the findings show that Lifetime migration is notably highest at ages twenty five to fifty nine (25-59), while the short-term migration is highest at ages twenty to thirty four (20-34). Migration is also somewhat more common among males.

As to other social characteristics, short-term migration tends to be most prevalent among the never married and the better educated.

**Director of Ceremonies  
Ladies and Gentlemen;**

Further, the report reveals that sixty three percent (63%) of the migrants cited unemployment as the main reason for migrating to urban areas.

We can see that this report is very rich with important statistics that can be used at national and international levels in assisting the design of national development strategies and frameworks in order to address human development concerns regarding migrants.

**Director of Ceremonies  
Ladies and Gentlemen;**

**In conclusion**, I wish to thank the UNFPA for financial support and government of United States of America through USAID for their financial support to the US Census Bureau which provided technical support during the production of the migration report.

In addition - I wish to acknowledge the NSA team, as well as the Department of Statistics of UNAM for their immense contribution towards the production of this report. Congratulations and keep up the good work!

I urge each and every one of you to use the information in the report responsibly for the development of the Namibian nation.

With these few but important words, it is my distinct honour to declare the migration report officially launched.

**I THANK YOU !**

