**37th Public Dialogue: Implementation Issues under the SADC/EC Economic Partnership Agreement in the Agro-Food Sector**

The Public dialogue organized in partnership with the Agricultural Trade Forum (ATF) and the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) on the SADC/EC Economic Partnership Agreement, focusing on the Agro-Food Sector took place on the 08 July 2016, in Windhoek at NICE Restaurant. The objective of the dialogue was to exchange ideas on issues that may affect the implementation of the EPA. Dr. Paul Goodison from the EU provided some policy directives on how the European Commission should implement trade agreements with an interest of removing trade barriers that affect European market access. Namibian retired Ambassador His Excellency, Hanno Rumpf provided important insights regarding the negotiation process.

The dialogue was attended by 50 participants consisting of representatives from the European Parliament, delegates from the European Commission, Business leaders, Non-Governmental Organizations and the Media. The outcome of the dialogue was as follows;

* In order to effectively implement the Economic Partnership Agreement, it is important that an implementation forum which consists of members of European Parliament, Namibia Parliament, Government and Private Sector should be established
* Alliances within SADC, Africa and ACP countries should be built in order to ensure that regional issues are addressed
* Trade Agreements discussions should be elevated at a political level so that Namibian parliamentarians can be engaged and educated on the implications of the implementations of the EPA trade agreements
* Namibia should built networks with stakeholders who are likely to champion Namibian interests