

CONSULTATIVE MEETING: REVIEW OF THE DRAFT NATIONAL SOCIAL PROTECTION POLICY 2019-2024

On the 05 September 2019, the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung in partnership with the Ministry of Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare organized a half day consultative meeting in Windhoek at Fürstenhof Hotel with Representatives from the Government, Civil Society, Academic Institutions and the International Organisations.

The purpose of the meeting was to review the draft National Social Protection Policy 2019-2024 that was prepared for the Ministry of Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare (MPESW).

The meeting was opened by Hon. Bishop Emeritus Dr. Zephania Kameeta, Minister of Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare and was closed by Dr. Rudolf Traub-Merz, the Resident Director of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung.

The experts discussed the challenges of the new Social Policies in terms of Economic, Budgets and Cost saving measures while others referred to Social Policy Expenditures as a means of taking the economy out of the recession. Different views and proposals were raised on the proposal of Maternity Leave. To address the challenges of Social Protection, grievance procedures was proposed. In order for more people to benefit from the Social Protection Programs, awareness raising in all 14 regions was also suggested. In general the experts commented the Ministry for its initiative and expressed views that the Ministry will convince the Cabinet to put Namibia Social Security Policy on a stronger footing.