



Inter-Parliamentary Union

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## Promoting child nutrition in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region

28-29 September 2015, Windhoek (Namibia)

Regional parliamentary seminar hosted by the Parliament of Namibia and co-organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

### GENERAL INFORMATION

- **Background**

Over 180 million children under the age of five are not meeting their development potential owing to nutritional deficiencies, which affect their learning outcomes and earning capacity as well as the economic prosperity of their communities and their nations. Poor nutrition and the stunting it causes trap the child, the community and the nation in a cycle of poverty.

Stunting is the outcome of chronic deficiency in nutrition during the first 1,000 days of a child's life – from conception, through pregnancy, to the age of two. The damage it causes to a child's development is irreversible. A stunted five-year old is inches shorter than he or she might have been. Chronic malnutrition makes that child more vulnerable to disease. A stunted child is as much as five times more likely to die from diarrhoea than a non-stunted child and, most important, a stunted child will never reach his or her full cognitive capacity and never be able to learn, nor earn, as much in his or her lifetime.

In order to galvanize national parliaments around nutrition interventions and to enhance their capacity to advance nutrition goals, the IPU and UNICEF will bring together parliamentarians from the SADC region and relevant civil society actors (who can provide members of parliament with relevant data and work with them to foster greater accountability), with a view to raising awareness and educating members of parliament on the urgent need for action.

The aim of the seminar is to increase the understanding of parliamentarians and parliamentary staff of issues related to malnutrition, stunting and the harmful effects these blights can have on their countries, and to enhance their capacity to support nutrition interventions. The seminar will pay particular attention to parliament's role in tracking and earmarking budgets for scaling up nutrition, but also focus on other powers (law-making, oversight, and representation) parliamentarians can deploy to help reduce malnutrition rates.

- **Debate and venue**

The regional seminar on Promoting Child Nutrition, organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and hosted by the National Assembly of Namibia, will be held in Windhoek on 28-29 September 2015 at the Safari Court Hotel & Conference Centre. The seminar proceedings will be conducted in English and French.

- **Delegate registration**

Invited parliaments are kindly requested to send their list of participants as soon as possible and no later than **31 July 2015**, using the attached registration form, to the following addresses:

<p>Mr Willem Isaak / Mr. Ripuree Tjitendero / Ms. Ndapandula Shipiki National Assembly Secretariat Private Bag 13323 Windhoek - Namibia</p> <p>Tel.: + 264 61 - 288 25 85 / 25 04 / 25 61 Fax: + 264 61 - 247 77 2 / 231 62 6 e-mail: <a href="mailto:w.isaak@parliament.gov.na">w.isaak@parliament.gov.na</a> / <a href="mailto:ripuree@hotmail.com">ripuree@hotmail.com</a> / <a href="mailto:n.shipiki@parliament.gov.na">n.shipiki@parliament.gov.na</a></p>	<p><b>Copy to</b> <b>Inter-Parliamentary Union:</b> Mr. Akiyo Afouda Inter-Parliamentary Union 5, Chemin du Pommier - P.O. 330 1218 GENEVA 19 Switzerland</p> <p>Tel.: + 41 22 - 919 41 23 Fax: + 41 22 - 919 41 60 email: <a href="mailto:aa@ipu.org">aa@ipu.org</a>; <a href="mailto:postbox@ipu.org">postbox@ipu.org</a></p>
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• **Hotel accommodation and reservation**

Participants are informed that they are responsible for their own air fare and accommodation. The hotels given below have been made available for participants attending the seminar at negotiated rates. Requests for hotel reservations will be treated on a first-come, first-served basis. Participants are kindly requested to forward copies of their hotel accommodation to the two Secretariats.

• **Accommodation details**

	Room Type		Room Type	
<p><b>Safari Court Hotel</b> <a href="mailto:safari@safarhotelsnamibia.com">safari@safarhotelsnamibia.com</a> <a href="http://www.safarhotelsnamibia.com">www.safarhotelsnamibia.com</a> (Rooms = per person)</p>	<p>Classic Room</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Single</b> N\$1'037</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Double</b> N\$695</p>		<p>Executive Suite</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Single</b> N\$2'627</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Double</b> N\$1'492</p>	
<p><b>Hotel Safari</b> <a href="mailto:safari@safarhotelsnamibia.com">safari@safarhotelsnamibia.com</a> <a href="http://www.safarhotelsnamibia.com">www.safarhotelsnamibia.com</a> (Rooms = per person)</p>	<p>Business Classic</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Single</b> N\$936</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Double</b> N\$540</p>	<p>Standard Room</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Single</b> N\$784</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Double</b> N\$465 twin beds</p>	<p>Standard Triple</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>N\$356</b></p>	<p>Standard quadruple</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>N\$302</b></p>
<p>Double room at the <b>Safari Court Hotel and Hotel Safari</b> refers to two occupancy thus the reduced rate per person sharing.</p>				
<p><b>Windhoek Country Club Resort</b> <a href="mailto:windhoek@legacyhotels.co.za">windhoek@legacyhotels.co.za</a> (Rooms = per person)</p>	<p>Standard Room</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>N\$1'597</b></p>		<p><b>Arebbusch Travel Lodge</b> <a href="mailto:reservations@arebbusch.com">reservations@arebbusch.com</a> <a href="http://www.arebbusch.com">www.arebbusch.com</a> (Rooms = per person)</p> <p>Standard Room</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Single</b> N\$870</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Double</b> N\$1'070</p>	

• **Arrival and departure**

Participants are kindly requested to state on the registration form their flight itinerary to enable the host Secretariat to arrange their transport. Any changes in flight schedules should be communicated immediately to the host Secretariat to ensure it can perform its tasks effectively and efficiently. Transport from the airport to the designated hotels upon arrival and departure will be provided by the host to all the participants.

• **Visas**

Participants requiring visas are requested to contact the nearest Namibian Diplomatic Mission, where such visas will be issued. Only in cases where it is impossible for participants to obtain a visa at home will a visa be issued to them upon arrival at Hosea Kutako International Airport. These participants are requested to send a photocopy of their passport to Mr. Willem Isaak at [w.isaak@parliament.gov.na](mailto:w.isaak@parliament.gov.na) or [n.shipiki@parliament.gov.na](mailto:n.shipiki@parliament.gov.na) stating the precise date and time of arrival as well as their flight number.

- **Medical service**

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First aid services will be provided at the meeting venue. Any other medical care will be at the expense of participants. Delegates are personally responsible for any personal insurance against risks.

- **Vaccination**

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Although yellow fever is not a disease risk in Namibia, the Government requires travellers arriving from countries where yellow fever is present to provide proof of yellow fever vaccination.

- **Weather conditions**

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In September, the average temperature in Windhoek varies between 20° and 29° C. Overnight temperatures are generally quite mild with an average low of 11 °C.

- **Currency**

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The Namibian Dollar (NAD/N\$) is the official currency of Namibia. All major credit cards (Visa, MasterCard and American Express) are widely accepted. Traveller's cheques and foreign currency can be exchanged during normal banking hours at any commercial banks in Namibia. The Namibian Dollar (N\$) is linked to the South African Rand (ZAR) at par value. The South African Rand is a legal tender in Namibia.

- **Transport**

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Transport will be provided to all seminar participants between the Hosea Kutako International Airport and the hotel as well as to the Conference Venue. Transport will also be provided for all official events during the seminar.