

# Chinese

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the remarks at a symposium held in Beijing Tuesday, with attendance of people from the non-communists parties and the All-China Federation of Industry and Commerce, as well as celebrities without party affiliations. Other members of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, including Wen Jiabao, Jia Qinglin, Xi Jinping, Li Keqiang, also attended the symposium. "We should strengthen our awareness of current risks and challenges the country is facing in economy, and firmly implement the central government's policies to ensure a stable and relatively rapid economic development," Hu said. Hu said the economy is developing in the right direction under the government's macroeconomic controls and the gov-

ernment would maintain the continuity and stability of its economic policies to make them more targeted and flexible according to new conditions. Further, more efforts should be made to strengthen economic forecasts and warning systems, as well as in the coordination of economic policies, Hu added. Hu asked for more efforts in the grain industry to achieve a good harvest this year and to improve control and relief work in combating floods and drought. The government would also push forward long-term mechanisms for boosting domestic demand, implement consumption measures and increase the influence of consumption in its contribution to the economy, Hu said. It would also encourage more private funding to sectors supported by the government.

Hu further vowed to advance economic restructuring and accelerate development of new strategic indus-



Chinese President Hu Jintao

tries, and promote development in the Tibet Autonomous Region, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region

and other regions populated by ethnic minority groups.

More efforts should be made on emission cuts and energy savings, as well as on elimination of outdated capacity, Hu said.

The government would also speed up reform of the property market, fiscal and financial systems, prices and social insurance, Hu said.

Further, the government would work to improve people's living standards and endeavor to meet the public's needs in education, health care, employment, social security and housing, Hu said. Post-disaster reconstruction efforts and work safety should also be intensified, Hu added.

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said at the symposium that the country would keep policy stability

as the theme for its economic regulation in the second half of the year.

Economic policies would be aimed at balancing the goals of containing inflation and ensuring relatively fast growth, while also pushing ahead with economic restructuring, Wen said, adding that steady and relatively fast growth is a precondition for resolving urgent issues and reforming the economy.

China's economic growth cooled to 10.3 percent year on year in the second quarter of this year, from the 11.9 percent in the first quarter, government data showed.

In late 2008, China unveiled a four-trillion-yuan stimulus package and shifted its fiscal policy from a "prudent" to a "pro-active" stance, while easing monetary policy from "tight" to "moderately loose", to counter the global financial crisis. (Xinhua)

# Himarwa

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Cde. Nhrumah Mushelenga



Cde. Ralph Blaaw

caused serious rifts and divisions within the Party structures

in the region, ahead of the upcoming regional and local authorities elections due to be held in November.

Upon her suspension, the Regional Executive Committee immediately submitted a formal notification to the Politburo through the Secretary General's Office, recommending that the Politburo should endorse the suspensions.

The Regional Executive Committee has also recommended the suspensions and expulsions of several people in the Hardap Region, but those have yet to be dealt with later.

The Secretary General has also cleared the air regarding the rumoured suspension of Ralph Blaaw, Nhrumah Mushelenga and Ishitile. "I want to make it categorically clear that there is no truth in such rumours," she said.

# Fidel

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He called Mandela his old and prestigious friend, adding he is happy to see him "acknowledged by all the world political institutions as a symbol of freedom, justice and human dignity".

Mandela, an anti-apartheid

legend, turned 92 on Sunday. Cuba marked the internationally recognized Nelson Mandela Day on his birthday.

Castro and Mandela met personally when Mandela visited Havana in 1991, after his release from prison. Castro decorated him with the Jose Marti's order, the highest honor. (Xinhua)

# Aochamub takes over NBC

Staff Reporter

**Mobiles Telecommunications Namibia, MTC' General Manager for Corporate Affairs, Albertus Aochamub, has been appointed Director General of the Namibian Broadcasting Corporation, NBC. He starts next month.**

The NBC has been without a director general for almost a year. He takes over a technically insolvent company with ballooning debts and a chaotic asset register.

Government will have to pump in money into the cash-strapped NBC, whose monthly salary bill is nearly N\$10 million per month. The NBC has about 500 employees

His appointment was approved by Cabinet last month. Chairperson of the NBC Board, Sven Thieme, described Aochamub as "a seasoned professional with nearly 12 years senior management experience," adding that his experience would be a "critical block" in driving the transformation agenda of the NBC into the future.

Thieme said Aochamub's appointment followed a "very thorough recruitment process which tested the competencies of qualifications, experience, key outputs, competencies/measurements, skills, attributes as well as the affirmative action status.

"Mr Albertus Aochamub was the most successful candidate from a list of 12 applicants," said Thieme. "I am also pleased that we have lived up to our promise of announcing the successful candidate by the middle of July. This means that the new Board will be able to take up its task in terms of what it has been entrusted with



NBC Board Chairperson Sven Thieme and newly appointed Director General, Albertus Aochamub. Photo by Levi Upula.

by the Ministry."

Aochamub promised to make a success of the NBC. "I am very delighted to be granted this opportunity to become part of a tremendous team of people who keep our nation informed, educated and entertained," he said shortly after he was introduced. "I do not doubt the enormity of the task at hand but I remain hopeful that with the involvement of all role players we shall succeed."

The new Board was inaugurated last month and was tasked to restructure and revamp the administration structures and procedures, staff recruitment and promotion, financial management system, procurement and asset management of the NBC. This meant that the Board needed to develop a turnaround strategy that would streamline the operations of the NBC. Al-

though the NBC has a well-established infrastructure that would have enabled it to generate adequate revenue for self sustenance, it continued to rely on Government funding.

But Thieme then promised to implement a turnaround strategy, and depending on the outcome, corrective measures, if not overhaul, would have to be made. He also promised to launch a new culture and craft the future with a robust strategy inspired by a great vision.

"And trust me, we don't need to reinvent the wheels here. There are pockets of good work that have been done in the past and that we will take and build upon. We then need the ruthless implementation of the strategy. Many may think that this is a daunting task," said Thieme.

Former NBC Director-Gen-

eral, Bob Kandetu was fired early last year, and Matthew // Gowaseb was appointed Acting Director General in the middle of last year. When he took over, the NBC had 366 permanent employees whose salary bill stood at N\$5 million per month. In less than 10 months of his stay at the NBC, new recruitments and promotions pushed the salary bill up to nearly N\$9 million per month.

NBC staff complement has risen to nearly 500 permanent employees, up from 366. That rise has pushed the NBC's annual salary bill to nearly N\$108 million. This year's government subsidy was N\$103 million. NBC's own contribution this year was N\$35 million from the Marketing Division, and N\$17 million from TV licences and other sales.

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