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whose qualifications will be better recognized globally. Such an alteration of the name will be a corresponding recognition of the noteworthy work done over the years by the leadership of the Poly, in an effort to enhance the quality and diversity of courses offered. SPYL views this step as one of the important steps toward solidifying a culture of studying and a vital factor to consolidating Namibia's current status as an exporter of education and training within SADC. Already, the land surveying

school is a SADC Center of Excellence. This is commendable. Recently, Polytech has commissioned the establishment of the Centre for Innovation. This is world-class.

Polytechnic has been in existence for over fifteen years now and has surely matured in terms of its programmes and training of human capital. We cannot continue to discriminate and footdrag the formalization of Polytech to that of the University of Namibia. Equally important is the appropriateness to revisit the funding provided to Polytech, away from the approximately N\$ 148 million an-

nually toward a higher figure, hopefully nearer to NS300 million. This is all for youth empowerment.

Associated with the above, we are of the opinion that time has come for Namibia to create a third National University, either in the South or the West of the country. We are able to afford such a University and we can source extremely capable expatriot's from SADC, as well as local academic talent, to make this University a reality.

ANTI CORRUPTION COMMISSION

The national effort toward addressing corruption, which effort

coincides with the global consensus to curb corruption, must be supported. We support this wholeheartedly. Namibia is doing well in financing and mobilizing society behind anti-corruption and toward ethical, responsible governance and reducing, if not eliminating corruption, where it occurs.

While the anti-corruption legislation in Namibia is fairly broad in powers granted to the Commission, there is an increasing calculus of risk we must be conscious of: it is the twin-propensity of over-interpreting and over definition of the corruption law and the Commissions' sphere of operation, combined with a highly defamatory, overzealous and often mischievous intent with which allegations of corruption are pursued.

It is time that the ACC must be itself subjected to regular investigation by the Ombudsman, in order to protect and further guarantee the inalienable rights and freedoms of citizens, as provided under the Constitution of Namibia.

The ACC has made it a habit of running a "toilet paper" show, focusing often on criminal offences of theft etc, rather than zooming in on the legal mandate deposited in its envelope. Another consequence of the terror-like onslaught of the ACC on the previously disadvantaged voting citizens of this country is the direct or indirect strangling of other important policies of government.

These policies include the affirmative action oriented economic measures, so that when disadvantaged citizens are engaging in business, local, regional and central government bodies and traditional authorities are suddenly subjected to often frivolous and vexatious and highly publicized investigations, which tends to defame people, and helps to negate the struggle for economic and social justice.

It is a dangerous political risk, threatening to delegitimize genuine economic empowerment and transformational aspirations grounded in the voters' demands for a better life. Due to these and other associated concerns, SPYL intends to soon open an avenue for debate and discussion with the ACC, and to partner, if need be, to help fulfill the ACC mandate.

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT VIA LOCAL AND REGIONAL COUNCILS

Economic empowerment is a must, and we have talked repeatedly about this matter. Now, without apology, Regional and Local authority Councils must join the network of empowerment agencies, to ensure our voting public tangible feels the trickle down economic approach. Parastatal's must also do their rightful share in this necessary democratic exercise. Regional and Local Authority Councils and councilor's must actively encourage youth, women and previously disadvantaged citizens' to kick-start viable business ventures and

support these to the fullest.

Along that route, SPYL is also working hard to ensure that a sizeable number of youth are able to get elected as Local and Regional Councilor's later this year. At least 45% youth representation is required.

Briefly, while talking about empowerment: Kuleni appears to be an innocent business proposition. However, it appears to have been created with the purpose of milking from GIPF, and it further appears to us that there is a major undercurrent, making it improper for SPYL to support Kuleni. That deal won't happen, period.

2010-2011 NATIONAL BUDGET

SPYL welcomes the budget and trusts that it will transform the lives of the ordinary people. We are concerned about the reduced revenue from the SACU pool, and hope that we can survive this challenge.

PACON: IS IT A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE PROPERTY?

The Pan-African Centre of Namibia (PACON) was established at the turn of the 21st Century by a Cabinet Resolution of the Government of Namibia, being the initiative of student leaders of the Pan-African Students Society of the University of Namibia and a small group of devoted Pan-Africanist in Namibia. Some ten years down the memory lane later, the scorecard of success reads zero, as compared with what the Centre was supposed to have done, essentially to disseminate African history, culture, art, indigenous knowledge systems, south-south relations and Pan-Africanism. What these essentially mean is that the Centre has been hijacked by few selected Board members, who have remained in the fossilized Board for the past ten years, and co-opt people with no interest in the Centre's activities, to form the quorum of nine people.

What happened at PACON was that those who originally conceived of PACON either left out of frustration or inaction to implement Afro-centric projects, to advance Pan-Africanism in other theatres or were pushed out. PACON remains dormant despite the government subvention of N\$250 000 per annum. The Centre is now in the hands of a clique disinterested in Pan-Africanism, as a core component of the African mission for unity and development. Rather than being a national asset it has become a liability, tarnishing the image of Pan-Africanism, due to its inactivity.

The Centre is silent and publically perceived as dormant. It only becomes active in order to head off any challenge to the status quo of inaction. The Centre has been in the hands of the same Board for a decade, concretising the perception of life tenure, in public affairs, rather than innovation with change. Board meetings are convened regularly, with consequent generous seating allowance going to Board members, without any work product to show. The Center has failed to

meet its legal obligations of annual meetings and the submission of annual audited reports. The public perceives PACON and consequently Pan-Africanism as lifeless. Those, inspired by Namibia's own armed struggle for self government, who seek to promote Pan-Africanism, have protested and agitated over the years, for change at PACON House.

As of late, the SWAPO Party Central Committee echoed similar calls for total reform at PACON in December 2009. The reaction of the Centre's Board is to refuse to resign on the basis that they are a legally constituted Board, which cannot be removed. In a nutshell, this is a slap in the face of the Central Committee of SWAPO Party and the Cabinet which agreed to the formation of PACON.

Consequently, the SPYL has also at numerous times advocated for the complete overhaul of the Centre, such as at the SPYL Economic Transformation Convention in 2008. To date, despite the promises by the Chairperson of PACON Board, no stakeholders meeting has been called. In fact, the Chairperson of the Board strongly believes that there is no such thing as PACON Stakeholder!

The Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture was directed to revamp PACON under the leadership of the Former Retired Minister, but the directives from the SWAPO Central Committee were never implemented.

Henceforth, SPYL is appealing to the Prime Minister, the line Minister and Cabinet to dissolve the current PACON Board, which has been in existence for the past ten years, due to inactivity, wastage of government resources, overstaying their term limit, undermining of pertinent directives from the ruling PARTY high structures.

Accordingly, SPYL also appeals to the Line Ministry, to henceforth cease with immediate effect the disbursement of annual stipendium to PACON, until and only after the Elective Stakeholders AGM is held under the auspices of the Ministry itself and Eminent Board Members, as soon as possible. Such an Elective Stakeholders AGM has become imperative and needs to be realized now, to avoid backlash and further polarized the already shrinking number of Pan-Africanists in Namibia.

It must be also underlined that the situation whereby our state institutions are used as personal trophy's by some amongst our midst for self-aggrandizements be curbed forthwith. This is the most abnormal board that we have ever witnessed in Namibia, and sets a dangerous precedent.

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VACANCIES



AGRIBANK OF NAMIBIA
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Vision

The Agricultural Bank of Namibia is a sustainable financial services institution that adds value to agriculture and related industries as well as rural communities.

Mission

The Agricultural Bank of Namibia is an agriculture and rural development finance institution that strives to enhance the productivity and profitability of agriculture and related industries by providing affordable and sustainable financial products and services that adds value to clients businesses.

Values

- Professionalism
- Honesty & Integrity
- Productivity & Competency
- Innovation Work Ethics
- Quality Customer Service
- Cost-effectiveness

Agribank is passionate about client service delivery.

Interested candidates with relevant qualifications are hereby invited to apply for the following positions:

Industrial Relations & Employee Wellness Officer

Purpose of the position:

Reporting to the Human Resources Manager, the incumbent will be responsible for industrial relations, employee wellness and occupational health and safety functions.

Key Performance Areas

- Ensure compliance with occupational health and safety requirements
- Ensure implementation and effectiveness of wellness initiative and programs
- Ensure sound industrial relations in the Bank

Minimum requirements

The suitable candidate will have at least a B Degree in Psychology with at least 5 years relevant work experience. Registration as a Psychological counselor will be an advantage.

Bank and Cash Clerk

Purpose of the position:

To keep accounting records of expenditure not accounted for in the Accounts Payable books.

Key Performance Areas

- To capture transactions from the bank statements on SAP system on a daily basis
- To maintain accounts of deposit from individual parties on appropriate GL accounts
- To maintain the ABN accounts for petty cash
- To carry out various service tasks associated with Bank Accounts, GL and Cash.

Minimum requirements

The suitable candidate should have at least a one year Certificate in Accounting and one year relevant experience. Computer literacy with a working knowledge of SAP system will be an advantage.

Valuation Officer (2)

Duty Station: Katima Mulilo Oshakati

Purpose of the position:

To conduct inspections in order to establish monetary value and physical condition of farmland, livestock and residential or commercial properties offered as security as well as to assess grazing conditions on farms.

Key Performance Areas

- Inspection of farms
- Inspection of livestock
- Inspection and valuation of residential/commercial properties
- Assessment of grazing land

Minimum requirements

The suitable candidate should have a 3 year Diploma in Land Valuation & Estate Management or Diploma in Agriculture with at least 3 years relevant work experience of which one year should have been in a bank environment. Computer literacy with a working knowledge of SAP will be an advantage.

Physically challenged people are encouraged to apply. Agribank will offer successful candidates competitive remuneration packages.

Detailed CV, certified copies of identity document and qualifications should be submitted to:

Human Resources Department
P/Bag 13208
Windhoek
10 Post Street Mall

Closing date: 9 April 2010

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted