



**REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA**

# **MINISTRY OF FINANCE**

**HON. TJEKERO TWEYA (MP)  
DEPUTY MINISTER FINANCE**

**03 April 2007**

**STATEMENT OF THE HONOURABLE DEPUTY MINISTER OF  
FINANCE ON NATIONAL INFORMATION CAMPAIGN OF THE ROAD  
FUND ADMINISTRATION, 3<sup>RD</sup> APRIL 2007**

**STATEMENT OF THE HON. DEP. MINISTER OF FINANCE ON  
NATIONAL INFORMATION CAMPAIGN OF THE ROAD FUND  
ADMINISTRATION, 3<sup>RD</sup> April 2007, Windhoek Country Club**

Director of Ceremonies  
Chief Executive Office of RFA,  
Directors on the RFA Board,  
Invited Guests,  
Media Practitioners,  
Ladies and Gentlemen

I wish to express my appreciation for your attendance at this first meeting of the National Information Campaign of the Road Fund Administration. I am pleased to inform you that this information meeting serves as a platform for the RFA officials to brief you about the mandate of the Road Fund Administration as well as to provide the details to you about the long overdue implementation of the Mass Distance Charges as from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2007.

Director of Ceremonies  
Ladies and Gentlemen

You are well aware that the Government of the Republic of Namibia has adopted a policy of full cost recovery from road users for the cost of preserving and developing the National road network. To give effect to this policy, Government established the three companies: Roads Fund Administration, Roads Authority and Roads Contractor Company each with its own mandate. The mandate of the Road Fund Administration is

to manage the roads user charging system to collect sufficient funds for the preservation and development of the national road network.

For you, as the most important stakeholders in this arrangement, it is very important to be fully informed and to become acquainted with your responsibilities towards the preservation and development of our national road network - one of Namibia's most valuable assets. To this effect, I would like to commend the Road Fund Administration for this noble effort to keep you informed on their activities.

Ladies and Gentlemen

You recall that the Road Fund Administration attempted to implement the Mass Distance Charges on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2006, based on advance payments calculated using assumed travelling distances. However, the High Court set aside this method of collection on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2006. The RFA respected the independence of the judiciary and it was compelled to go back to the drawing board and redesign a new and practical collection method for the MDCs. I am reliably informed that this redesigning process was done in thorough consultation with all stakeholders and that the new proposed system is now acceptable to all involved.

This illustrated two main issues, first, the Government is committed to the role of Law and secondly, not much consultation was done when a specific method was decided upon and thus was not implementable.

Director of Ceremonies

I thank you and commend the industry RFA for the nature way they handled the issue till where we are today.

As stakeholders in the transport industry, I humbly request you to receive the information provided by the Road Fund Administration and the details about the Mass Distance Charging System with an open mind and clear understanding of the well-intended endeavours and objectives of the Road Fund Administration. I also urge you to pose all the questions to the Road Fund Administration officials on areas where you are not clear. We welcome your constructive ideas as to how the role that the Road Fund Administration is mandated to fulfil can be executed with excellence, and in the best interest of us all.

As of today, the Road Fund Administration has embarked on a schedule of meetings that will take place in the respective regions during April and May.

As we approach Easter, we should have the safety of our fellow road users in mind and be the custodians of safety on our well-maintained road network. Last year, as far as statistics reveal, has been the worse in terms of road accidents as well as roads-related deaths. These accidents, no doubt, adversely impact on the economic activities of our families, businesses and the public at large. Let us therefore stand together and curb this evil in our society, in responding positively to His Excellency, the President of our Republic's recent call "to stay alert"...

Ladies and gentlemen, I now have the honour to declare the National Information Campaign of the Road Fund Administration officially launched and sincerely wish you all fruitful consultations.

**I THANK YOU.**

