

UN presents SDGs at Fourth Rural Women's Parliament

The United Nations in Namibia (UN Namibia) took part in the fourth session of the Rural Women's Parliament with Men as Partners by presenting an overview of the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and how these goals are designed to improve the lives of all citizens.



*Woman from the Otjozondjupa Region making a submission, during the Fourth Session of the Rural Women's Parliament with Men as Partners. **National Council***

In his presentation, the World Health Organization (WHO) Representative to Namibia, Dr. Charles Sagoe-Moses highlighted SDGs 5, 3, 6, 13 and 17 as key areas of opportunity for women in the rural areas.

He stressed that rural women are at the base of development, and he challenged the men and women present to see how the SDGs can bring peace and prosperity to them in their environment.

During a question and answer session, the men and women highlighted an array of challenges rural communities are faced with on a daily basis, namely: Lack of access to clean water and sanitation, hunger and long distances children are expected to walk to and from school every day.

Dr. Charles Sagoe-Moses concluded the discussion by encouraging communities to be well-organized among themselves in order to be able to hold government, UN and other development partners to account.

The session, which was officially opened by the First Lady of the Republic of Namibia, Madam Monica Geingos, discussed several pertinent issues of national concern affecting Namibians who live in rural areas.

Chairperson of the National Council, Margaret Mensah-Williams said this event formed part of government's efforts to inform and expose not only women but also their male partners to the law-making process.

Participants came from all corners of the country, with two women and one man representing all fourteen regions.