



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY

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02 February 2018

RESPONSES TO THE INFORMANTE QUESTIONS

Background

“I visited Othembike in Okankolo constituency, where I discovered that animals are dying due to unknown illness.”

1. Was the case reported to the Ministry?

No case of that nature was reported to the Ministry’s regional offices from Othimbika village.

2. Does the Ministry not provide services to remote area?

The Ministry’s Veterinary and Animal Health Technicians normally provide services required by the farmers, but the current budget constraint led to limited farm visits by the Ministry’s officials as well as limited drugs for treatment of livestock.

However, the Ministry has a Veterinary sub-section office in Onyuulae which serves the surrounding villages of Okankolo Constituency including Othimbika village which is about 19 km from Onyuulae.

3. Veterinary services seem not to visit remote areas to provide injection for animals, is the ministry aware of that?

The Ministry official last visited Othimbika village on 28/06/2017 during the annual CBPP & FMO vaccinations campaigns.

It should be noted that it is very costly to drive around villages seeking for sick animals in all villages, however the Ministry advises the farmers to report any sick animals within the communities to the Ministry's DVS regional offices on time.

4. Are there any plans to bring services to the remote areas?

Please refer to Number 2&3 above, but the service is already there.

5. Any additional information?

The Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry advises farmers when reporting cases of sick or dying animals to provide the Ministry's officials with correct and timely information for appropriate actions to be taken.

We wish to emphasize that, cases of dying animals need veterinary attention and are usually considered as emergencies. Therefore, whenever one encounters cases of this nature one must report them to the nearest veterinary office.

Percy W. Misika

Permanent Secretary