Cabinet took the following decisions at its 14th meeting held on 12 October 2010.

8. REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CABINET DECISION NO. 18TH/30.09.08/003 (REPATRIATION OF THE REMAINS (SKULLS) OF NAMIBIANS WHO WERE VICTIMS OF THE GERMAN WAR OF EXTERMINATION)

Cabinet directed that the Ministry of Youth, National Service, Sport and Culture to budget for the repatriation of the remains (skulls) from Germany to be covered in the Financial Year 2011/2012.

That the remains (skulls) be stored at the museum upon their return to Namibia.

Cabinet also directed the Ministry to prepare and arrange for the deserving Heroes welcome of the remains (skulls) in Namibia. That the remains (skulls) be returned before May 2011.

BACKGROUND

Cabinet designated the Ministry of Youth, National Service, Sport and Culture (National Heritage Council) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as competent authorities to arrange for the repatriation of the remains (skulls) of the heroes/heroines of the Anti-Colonial Resistance and that the German government covers the costs thereof.

As a result, the Ministry of Youth, National Service, Sport and Culture invited the concerned Traditional Authorities to deliberate on the repatriation of the remains (skulls).

They proposed that the remains (skulls) be stored in a museum in Namibia for reference purposes and also to serve as material evidence in the on-going case of genocide compensation.

Other issues related to the facilitation of the dialogue with the Federal Republic of Germany on the issue of genocide as raised by the Ovaherero and Nama Traditional Authorities fall outside the scope and mandate of the Ministry of Youth, National Service, Sport and Culture. The issue of the return of the remains (skulls) is separate from that of the demand for genocide compensation.

For more information please contact the Ministry of Youth, national Service, Sport and Culture at Tel: 0612706510.