

Staby Responds To Stocks & Stocks

DURING the course of last week, Stocks & Stocks Namibia (Pty) Ltd issued a lengthy statement in which the firm attempted to throw some light on the history of certain projects which they constructed or for which they submitted tenders. These projects include, among others, the Brendan Simbwaye Square office block, the Bank of Namibia building and the proposed Government Office Park.

Reference is made to the role which I am alleged to have played in precipitating certain decisions, for instance with regard to the award of the contract for the erection of the Bank of Na-

mibia Building. It is also implied that I have fervently opposed the construction of the Government Office Park.

I would like to clarify merely three issues:

1. The award of the Bank of Namibia building contract to the International/Grinaker Constortium remains to be in the best interest of both our Client and the Namibian taxpayer without a shadow of a doubt. Since Stocks and Stocks Namibia (Pty) Ltd appears dissatisfied with the award, they should of course feel at liberty to institute such remedial action as they consider appropriate.

2. Concerning my attitude with regard to the

construction of the Government Office Park, I said the following in Parliament about this project on April 12, 1996: "To accuse us of being opposed to any kind of development is patently nonsense ... We will support investments and developments of any kind, but it is necessary to invest wisely and go about development in a circumspect manner ... Little is wrong with the principle of the Government Office Park but everything is wrong with the immoderate methods envisaged to bring it to reality ... Government has nothing to lose but everything to gain by taking a rational and well balanced deci-

sion concerning the implementation of this project."

The records of parliament will verify this statement. I stand by what I said.

3. With regard to the Brendan Simbwaye Park project, I said the following, also on April 12 1996. "...am convinced that this kind of deal cannot be in the interest of the Namibian taxpayer and may not serve as a precedent for any future project, least of all for the proposed Government Office Park."

Again I stand by what I said.

**HANS-ERIK STABY MP
WINDHOEK**

NamDeb Donation Dismissed