

Namibia: Cabinet Cancels RCC-Beijing Deal

By Shinovene Immanuel

Cabinet has approved the recommendation of two ministries to cancel an illegal multi-billion dollar contract between the Roads Contractor Company and a Chinese company.

The contract termination comes after another RCC board member jumped ship, leaving the board with only two directors.

Works and transport minister John Mutorwa confirmed this to The Namibian yesterday when asked about the status of the RCC.

The state-owned RCC concluded an agreement with Nantong Sanjian on 6 April 2018 for a N\$580 loan to avoid being shut down.

Under the agreement, the Chinese company was to give the RCC N\$580 million in exchange for partnering with the Namibian parastatal on projects in which the Chinese company's stake would have amounted to over N\$2 billion.

Several ministers, including Mutorwa, however rejected the agreement, saying he was not briefed about the contract before it was signed.

Mutorwa said yesterday that the Cabinet committee on overall policy and priorities, chaired by President Hage Geingob, met this week to discuss the RCC matter, among other matters.