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## **President Shelly's Issues Statement on Budget and Finance Committee Review of FY 2012 General Fund Budget**

**Window Rock, AZ**—Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly issued the following statement today on the Budget and Finance Committee's review of the FY 2012 General Fund Branch Budget:

"We have come to an agreement, Chief Justice Herb Yazzie, Speaker Johnny Naize and I, to be fiscally responsible to the Navajo people. We made sacrifices to agree on the FY 2012 projected revenues of \$170 million. As president, I have to answer to the people and we cannot operate in the red. Especially, since the executive branch delivers direct services to the people. Today, I asked the Budget and Finance Committee for their support to uphold our Branch Chiefs Agreement and to help us get out of the red and back into the black. We took into consideration the voices of the Navajo communities and they are concerned about the deficit with the Undesignated Unreserved Fund Balance. The executive branch amount is budgeted for operating and personnel costs. The future of our Nation is reflected in our agreement because the Navajo people come first."

The Budget and Finance Committee will meet later this month in a special session to further discuss the three-branch allocations.

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