



SWAPO United, SWAPO Victorious, Now Hardwork...

1) CONGRESS RESOLUTIONS- Note Which Congress

RESOLUTIONS OF THE THIRD SWAPO PARTY CONGRESS, HELD AT UNIVERSITY OF NAMIBIA (UNAM), 21-26 AUGUST 2002

INTRODUCTION

The Third SWAPO Congress held from 21 to 26 August 2002 was one of the most successful Congresses ever held in an independent Namibia. The aforementioned Congress passed a record number of forty-five (45) resolutions, most of which need to be implemented by the SWAPO PARTY and the Government.

The resolutions of the Third SWAPO PARTY Congress should become accessible to all SWAPO PARTY members and structures. This will allow the members and structures to access and assist in the implementation of the Congress resolutions both at the Party and Government levels: they are as follows:

1. Rules and Procedures

The Congress reviewed and adopted the SWAPO PARTY Rules and Procedures for Conducting the Congress Proceedings and the Election of National Officers, as well as the SWAPO PARTY Code of Conduct on Political Campaign. The Congress also directed the Central Committee to establish an Internal Party Code of Conduct and to put it in operation forthwith so as to regulate the conduct of all Party members and to deal with all incidences of indiscipline and violation of the Party's Aims and Objectives and Obligations.

2. Gender Equality in the Party Structures

The Congress reiterated that at the next SWAPO PARTY Congress the gender composition of the delegations from the regions must be 50/50 in order to ensure gender balance. Congress also mandated the Central Committee to evolve a mechanism of accommodating the election of at least 30% women to the Central Committee.

3. Amendment to the SWAPO PARTY Constitution

The Congress resolved to implement the decision of the 1998 Extra-Ordinary Congress of the SWAPO PARTY which recommended the inclusion of the Regional Coordinators in the Central Committee. The Congress, therefore, further resolved to amend Article VI(3) of the SWAPO PARTY Constitution as follows:

The Central Committee shall be composed of:

- a) The President, the Vice-President, the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General elected by the Congress;
- b) Fifty-seven (57) members directly elected to the Central Committee by the Congress;
- c) Three (3) Secretaries elected by the Congress of the Party Wings;
- d) Regional Coordinators directly elected by their Regional Conferences;
- e) Six (6) members appointed by the President.

4. **The Party School**

In order to strengthen the Party structures, especially in the areas of management and political mobilization, the Congress resolved to establish the Institute for Political Studies (IPS) as a Centre for capacity building for Party members, political mobilisers and functionaries. Congress further resolved that the IPS should be established before the next Congress.

5. **Party Financing**

A consistent and effective mechanism for the collection of Party membership fees and contributions must be put in place at all levels of the Party structures. Party Companies must regularly pay dividends to the Party as shareholders. All Party structures at all levels should be directed to be engaged in income generating and fund raising activities to finance their operations, thereby complementing the Party resources.

6. **Party Membership Records**

The Congress, having reviewed the current Party data on membership, directed the Central Committee and the Secretariat to computerize membership records at all levels of the Party. The Congress further resolved to direct all Regions, Districts, Branches and Sections of the Party to continue updating membership registers and to collect membership fees and contributions, and such information be provided to the headquarters on a regular basis as part of the revitalization of the Party.

7. **Party Business Enterprises**

In order to ensure effective management of the SWAPO PARTY business enterprises, the Congress directed the Central Committee to ensure that appropriate mechanisms are established to oversee the management and full accountability of the Party enterprises and assets. The Congress further recommended the capacity building of Managers and Directors and the introduction of internal auditing systems.

8. **The 1999 SWAPO PARTY Election Manifesto**

The Congress reviewed the progress made with regards to implementation of the SWAPO PARTY Elections Manifesto and directed the Government to continue with the projects proposed therein until final completion. Towards that end, the Party resolved to set up mechanisms for regular monitoring and evaluation of progress of implementation. It was also decided that the resolutions of a preceding Congress must be a standing item on the agenda of every Central Committee meeting so that their implementation is regularly monitored.

9. International Relations

The Congress reviewed the regional situation and welcomed the efforts made to find lasting peace in the DRC and Angola. The Congress further noted with satisfaction the establishment of the AU together with NEPAD in order to promote the interests of the African people. The Congress furthermore resolved to continue forging links with all progressive forces all over the world in the anti-imperialist struggle for world peace, security and social justice. The Congress further expressed solidarity with the oppressed people of Palestine and supported their struggle for the establishment of an independent Palestinian State. Congress appreciated the presence of international delegates at the Congress and resolved to continue strengthening the relations with the fraternal parties represented at the Congress.

10. HIV/AIDS Pandemic

The Congress welcomed the Government's programme for the prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission, which makes provision for the prevention of HIV transmission to the child and the treatment of both parents with anti-retroviral medicines.

11. Women Empowerment

The SWAPO PARTY shall continue to support the advancement of women and the prevention of violence against women and children. The Congress directed the Government to establish a Fund to support the orphans, vulnerable children as well as early childhood development programmes. The Congress urged the SWAPO PARTY to continue working towards gender balance at all levels of its structures and in both the private and public sectors.

12. Rural Development

The Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Rural Development should be supported to strengthen its activities in rural development to make rural areas a good place for residents and visitors alike. Infrastructure such as roads, housing and social amenities should be constructed in order to bridge the existing gap between rural and urban areas.

13. Economic and Infrastructure Development

The Party shall continue to encourage the Government in its programme for the development of infrastructure such as roads, agricultural production, fish farming, provision of water, housing, telecommunication and industrial parks. The SWAPO PARTY shall continue to promote the construction of the new port at Cape Frio, including the extension of the Trans-Caprivi Highway from Rundu via Nkure-nkuru, Okongo, Eenhana, Onuno, Outapi and Tsandi to the Atlantic Ocean. In addition, Congress resolved to develop the Epupa Hydro Electric Scheme that will accelerate the development of the Kunene Region and Southern Angola. The Congress welcomed the extension of the railway line from Tsumeb via Oshakati and Ondangwa to Oshikango which will not only link Namibia to Angola, but has also the potential to create significant employment opportunities. The Congress also urged the Government to speed up the construction of the link road between Trans-Caprivi and Trans-Kalahari Highways.

14. **Resettlement**

It is recommended that the current N\$20 million allocated to acquire land for the landless Namibians should be increased to at least N\$100 million per annum so as to accelerate land acquisition. These resources should be utilized also to build the capacity of those to be resettled so that they become productive and efficient farmers. The Congress took note that there are those who have excess land but are unwilling to make it available to the SWAPO PARTY Government for redistribution to the landless.

15. **Land Distribution**

The Congress noted with concern the slow pace in finding lasting solutions to the land redistribution, which has the potential to cause civil strife. It also noted the existence of a large number of under-utilised commercial farms owned by foreign absentee landlords. Towards that end, the Congress resolved that the 192 farms belonging to foreign absentee landlords with accumulative size of about 1,268 911 ha should be expropriated within the framework of the law. The Government is directed to take all necessary measures within the law to give effect to this decision as soon as possible.

16. **National Officers**

The effective functioning of the Party Secretariat is very important and that could only be achieved if there are a full-time Secretary-General and a Deputy Secretary-General. It is, therefore, recommended that the decision of the last Congress to this effect should be implemented. The Congress directs the Central Committee to ensure that all the Departments of the Party are activated and that officers be drawn from Cabinet Ministers, Members of Parliament and other structures of the Party to head this structure in order to strengthen the Party Secretariat.

17. **Safety and Security**

The Congress welcomes the Government's effort which has brought peace and security to the Regions of Kavango and Caprivi and expressed concern at the rate of crime in the country. The Congress directed the Government to continue with the implementation of

the programmes towards fighting crime in order to make Namibia a safe country. The Courts must impose stiffer sentences for murder, rape, armed robbery and other serious crimes.

18. **Justice and Governance**

The Congress observed that the current composition of the Judicial Service Commission is too narrow and does not represent all relevant stakeholders. To ensure that the Judicial Service Commission comply with the will of the people and objectively advise the President in the appointment and removal of Judges, Congress resolved that a constitutional amendment aimed at broadening the composition of the Judicial Service Commission to include other stakeholders be brought as soon as possible to reflect the interests of the people. The Government Constitutional Committee is also directed to undertake a study in order to determine the implication of separating the Executive from Legislature and the unicameral parliamentary system.

19. **Labour Relations**

The Congress noted the importance of sound labour relations in the country and good communications between social partners as essential elements in economic development. Therefore, the Congress resolved to set up a mechanism to ensure a harmonious relationship between the Party, the Trade Unions and the Government in order to avoid confrontation.

The Congress expressed concern on the plight of farm workers and condemned farmers who are mistreating their workers by not only paying them little wages but also expelling them from their farms thereby rendering them homeless. The Government was urged to take appropriate legal measures against such practice.

20. **Employment Creation**

The Congress expressed concern about the slow pace of implementing infrastructure development programmes with the potential to contribute to the elimination of unemployment. The Congress therefore directed the Government to embark upon major capital projects in the manufacturing, infrastructure, agriculture and the service sector with immediate effect. The Congress further directed the Government to strike a balance in the resources allocation between the social and productive sectors and to promote entrepreneurial development.

21. **Civic Services**

The Congress noted with concern the irregularities within the Department of Civic Affairs relating to issuance of national documents. The Congress resolved that in order to eliminate such irregularities the Public Service Act be amended accordingly to close the loopholes hindering fast disciplinary measures for those found guilty. It was also resolved that the Ministry of Home Affairs be declared a sensitive Ministry so that all those working there are vetted accordingly.

22. **Namibia Defence Force (NDF)**

The Congress applauded the role of the NDF in the UN peacekeeping missions in Cambodia, Eritrea, Kosovo and Angola, and the SADC mission in the DRC and the collaboration with the Angolan Army to crash UNITA bandits in Angola and Namibia. The Congress therefore resolved to direct the Government to allocate additional resources for the purpose of strengthening the capacity of the Namibia Defence Force. This is required to guarantee the capabilities of these forces to effectively protect the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of Namibia.

23. **Provision of Housing**

The Congress analyzed the report presented by the Minister of Regional, Local Government and Housing. The Congress resolved that housing remains an important area for development and directed the government to speed up the implementation of the decentralization programme, and to seek financial resources within and outside government framework to accelerate the provision of housing in the country especially in the rural areas.

24. **Maternity Leave**

The Congress noted that existing maternity leave pay is still disadvantaging would-be mothers because the maternity leave pay is below full wages. The Congress resolved that the Ministry of Labour should legislate for fully paid maternity leave for a period of three (3) months. The Government is further directed to establish a national pension, medical aid, and the development funds envisioned under the Labour Act without delay.

25. **Tourism**

The Congress expressed concern that some of the tourists coming to Namibia have their packages invoiced and paid for in Europe. The Congress therefore resolved that the services provided to tourists in Namibia must be invoiced and paid for in Namibia. The Congress also directed the Ministry of Environment and Tourism to develop a tariff system that would cater for high cost tourism as well as affordable entrance and accommodation fees for Namibian citizens. It was further resolved that additional tourist resorts be constructed in communal areas in order to allow people living in these areas to benefit from tourism.

26. **Building a Vibrant Economy**

The Congress evaluated the programmes and projects embarked upon by the Government which are aimed at building a vibrant economy. The Congress unanimously supported the programmes and directed the Government to provide sufficient resources towards the implementation of policies on Special Industrialization Programme, Small Credit Guarantee Scheme, investment promotion, export promotion, small miners development programme, access to financial services and formulation of policies and legislation aimed at creating

conducive environment for economic growth and development. It was further resolved that public procurement must promote black economic empowerment, small and medium enterprises, and local and regional development.

27. Agriculture

The Congress resolved to promote food production and food security so that Namibia could become self-sufficient in some of the basic foodstuffs. Towards this end, the Congress directed its Government to provide sufficient resources to the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Rural Development to implement agricultural and water projects with a view to producing sufficient food and creating enough jobs. The Congress further directed the Government to set up the National Water Tariffs.

28. Human Resources Development

Having analyzed the report of the Government of Human Resources Development, the Congress emphasized the need for a focused human resources development programme geared towards the realization of Vision 2030. The Congress urged the Government to identify the needs of the country in terms of various fields of study that would satisfy the economic demands of the country. Congress recognized the need for urgent intervention in terms of human resource development in the scientific and technical fields as a requisite for both social and economic development. The need to meet the demand for scientists, engineers, teachers, doctors, economists, information technology experts and various technical disciplines was recognized by Congress. The Government and institutions of higher learning are directed to align their activities to satisfy these needs within the next five years.

The Congress further resolved to direct the Government to formulate a programme involving the Directorates of Education in identifying various schools in the 13 regions of the country. The aim should be to identify potential students at Grade seven (7) who could become scientists. The Government should put up a mechanism to monitor their performance and progress in their grades. It was further directed to find necessary financial resources for placement of these students in the best tertiary institutions in Namibia and other countries as part of the national strategies to meet the national human resources requirements within the next 15 years.

The Congress unanimously directed the Government to ensure that beneficiaries to these programmes and Government bursaries should be contractually bonded to work for the Government for at least ten (10) years.

29. The Tombstone Project

The Congress commended the Central Committee for the initiative to identify the graves of fallen PLAN Combatants in various parts of the country and abroad, and to continue placing tombstones in recognition of their sacrifices for the liberation of our country.

The Congress directed the Government to take necessary measures to put the up-keep and further placing of tombstones to the remaining graves under responsibility of the National Monuments Council. The Congress took the above decision in cognizant of the fact that these PLAN Combatants have sacrificed their lives for the independence of Namibia and the liberation of all its people.

30. **Information and Broadcasting**

The Congress took note of the fact that the people of Namibia are found in remote areas of the country where it is very difficult to access them in order to disseminate the required information. Access to useful and developmental information is not accessible to many black Namibians especially those in rural areas. Radio and television should, therefore, be strengthened and expanded in order to reach all our people. It is therefore resolved that our information service institutions, especially NBC Radio and Television, be urged to intensify and increase the content of educational information and developmental information to include the Namibian cultural and educational programmes. The Congress directed the Government to enjoin NBC specifically not to show useless visual materials which inculcate values that are inimical to nation building and development.

31. **Black Economic Empowerment**

The Congress reviewed the economic situation of Namibia and noted with concern the great socio-economic disparity between the privileged white minority and the disempowered black majority. The Congress felt that such situation is not conducive to sustain peace and stability in the long term. The Congress directed the Government to design a Black Economic Empowerment Policy and legal framework defining the measures necessary to ensure that the black majority enjoys material wealth like their white compatriots within a defined time frame and in all sectors of the economy.

32. **Global Warming and Ozone Depleting Substances**

The Congress noted with concern the dangerous consequences of global warming and depletion of the ozone layer in the atmosphere. The Congress resolved that the nation should be sensitized and educated about these phenomena and should adhere to preventive measures to avoid the UV-B radiation, which has potentially harmful effects on human health. The Congress recommended precautionary measures amongst others, avoiding sun burning, limiting exposure to midday sun, wearing of hat, long sleeve clothing and sunglasses.

The Congress further resolved to urge the Namibian Government to put in place legal measures to prevent the emission and use of ozone depleting substances such as CFC's in accordance with existing international conventions.

33. **Culture**

The Congress noted the degeneration of cultural and moral values in the country, especially among the youth. The Congress therefore recommended that the Government

establishes cultural villages in all regions where children could be sensitized and informed about our values, history and cultural and traditional heritage.

34. **Decentralization**

The Congress assessed the implementation of programmes on decentralization. The Congress reaffirmed the Party's commitment to the principle of decentralization and urged the Government to allocate the necessary resources, both human and material, in order to accelerate the pace of decentralization. It was further resolved that all efforts must be made to build and sustain capacities in the regions to ensure effective and efficient service delivery to the people in the regions.

35. **Police**

The Congress was informed about the efforts of the Government in combating crime and in improving the capacity of law enforcement agencies. It was further stated that resource constraints are limiting the ability of the Police Force to combat crime effectively. The Congress therefore directed the Government to allocate the necessary resources required to the law enforcement agencies and to rid the Police Force of unpatriotic and dishonest elements. It was further proposed that the working and living conditions of the law enforcement agencies be improved. The Congress noted the success of the Police in thwarting criminal activities, such as drug trafficking, fraud and theft of protected resources.

36. **Drug and Alcohol Abuse**

The Congress noted the negative relationship between alcohol and drug abuse, HIV transmission, crime and domestic violence. It was therefore resolved that the Namibian Police undertake periodic but unannounced operations on all unlicensed liquor outlets and clubs where the abuse of these substances and the illegal sale of liquor to minors take place.

37. **Project Financing**

During the discussion on economic development, the lack of sufficient financial resources for financing long-term capital projects for economic development was identified. However, it was also noted that Namibia is a net exporter of capital. It was further noted that private financial institutions have not been forthcoming in availing the required capital especially to SME's and manufacturing enterprises. The Congress therefore directed the Government to embark upon immediate training of Namibians in management disciplines so that the finances exported could be retained and managed locally. The Government is further directed to make available funds to kick-start manufacturing and value adding enterprises.

38. **Education**

The Congress noted the challenges facing the government in the provision of educational facilities in all the regions. The Congress however commended the efforts made by the Government so far, and directed that it continues to assess educational needs and to provide the necessary facilities. It was further recommended that the educational system should be restructured to provide the required skills for self-employment, and to meet the labour market demands. Existing skills development and vocational training institutions should be aligned to the national development priorities and additional ones should be established in all the regions where they do not exist.

39. Public Service

The Congress noted with appreciation the good performance of the public service and the current efforts of making the public service more responsive, efficient and effective. The Congress directed the Government to continue with the development of the public service charters and capacity building in order to ensure prompt service delivery. Congress urged Government to speed up the implementation of measures aimed at addressing the problems of inefficiency, corruption, negligence, abuse of Government properties and all other malpractices.

40. Drought

The Congress recognized the imminent consequences of drought on our country, especially the implications it shall have on the overall development. The Congress commended measures put in place by Government to mitigate direct and indirect effects of the drought.

41. Value Addition

Congress noted with concern that huge amount of unprocessed minerals, such as raw copper, semi processed stones and animal products, like hides, skins and livestock on the hoof which are exported. It was observed that such practice is depriving the Namibian economy of the benefits of diversification and job creation. The Congress resolved that the export of such raw materials and agricultural produce should be discouraged and that instead the exports of value added and finished products be encouraged.

42. Extra-Ordinary Congress

The Congress has taken note of the announcement by the Central Committee earlier this year that the incumbent President of the SWAPO PARTY shall not be available as a candidate for the next Presidential elections in line with the provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of Namibia

The Congress, therefore, resolves to confirm the decision of the Central Committee to hold an extra-ordinary Congress in 2004 with a view to addressing the question of succession.

43. Sam Nujoma Foundation

The Congress, in recognition of the extra-ordinary contribution made by Comrade Dr. Sam Nujoma to the liberation of Namibia, resolved to establish a Section 21 Company, a non-profit making organisation to be known as Sam Nujoma Foundation. The Foundation shall be dedicated to the promotion of human endeavour, especially provision of bursaries to young Namibians intending to study science and technical subjects at tertiary institutions in order to achieve a high level of human capital in the country.