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We are tasked to save lives,' says Dr Kamwi. Page 10-11



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Ithana clears air

SG rubbishes succession campaigns as premature

By Asser Ntinda



SWAPO Party Secretary General, Cde Pendukeni Iivula-Ithana, flanked by Cde Joel Kaapanda, Deputy Secretary for Information and Mobilization. Photo by Levi Upula.

SWAPO Party Secretary General, Cde Pendukeni Iivula-Ithana has rubbished current succession campaigns within and outside the Party as premature and destructive, saying that it serves no purpose to campaign now as the Constitution of the SWAPO Party remains the guiding document.

"Only the Congress will have the final say," she said emphatically. "The Congress is supreme. The succession debate should not precede the Congress. The Ordinary Congress takes its course. The succession issue must be discussed at an appropriate time and within party structures."

A visibly annoyed Cde Iivula-Ithana said the leadership of SWAPO Party was elected for a period of five years as per Constitution of the Party, and that meant that there would be a new leadership after next year's congress.

"To put it point blank," she

said, "all positions in the Central Committee, the President, the Vice President, the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General shall be dissolved at the Congress and a new leadership is once again elected to lead the Party for the next five years."

"The forthcoming Congress of 2012 is an Ordinary Congress and henceforth a new leadership will be elected. The succession policy adopted by the Central Committee remains relevant and will manage the Party's succession outside the Congress of the SWAPO Party, which is the highest decision-

making body of all structures within the Party."

Cde Iivula-Ithana addressed a fully packed press conference on Thursday, following recent media reports and darkroom campaigns within and outside the Party by some individuals favouring one or the other candidate. The combative Cde Iivula-Ithana outlined the powers of the Congress.

She said that should anything requiring a decision of the Congress happen, such as the succession issue, the Central Committee, which is the highest-de-

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Cde Nujoma not ill, says Dr Ithete

Healthy Nujoma meets his namesake from Angola

By Asser Ntinda

Founding President Dr Sam Nujoma is doing well and is not ill as some media houses and civil society organizations have been speculating over the past few days.

The speculations stemmed from his routine annual medical check-up which he underwent recently at the Windhoek

Central Hospital. The Founding President does this at the beginning of each year.

NamRights' Phil Ya Nangoloh used that routine check up to spread rumours that the Founding President was "ill and was admitted at a local hos-

pital." Ya Nangoloh went on to say "it could not be immediately established whether Dr Nujoma was released to return to his residence or has been referred to another hospital for continuing care."

Officials in the Founding President's Office have rubbished Ya Nangoloh's claims as lies, saying that there was nothing wrong with a rou-

tine check-up. "People go for check-up every year," said John Nauta, Senior Special Assistant to the Founding President. "If Ya Nangoloh does not go for check-up, that is his problem."

The Founding President's personal doctor, Dr Tshali Iithete, had also confirmed that Cde Nujoma only went in for a

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High court vindicates SWAPO, says SG

The High Court judgment in which nine opposition parties lost their case to have the 2009 National Assembly and Presidential elections nullified or votes recounted has vindicated SWAPO Party and strengthened democracy in the country.

SWAPO Party Secretary General, Cde Pendukeni Iivula-Ithana said that the judgment had not passed unnoticed, especially by SWAPO Party against whom allegations were made that it rigged the elections and won fraudulently.

She said that while SWAPO Party members should celebrate this victory as vindicating them from those unwarranted accusations of vote rigging, they should keep in mind that Namibia and its institutions were larger than all of them put



S.G Pendukeni Iivula-Ithana together.

"Issues of personal and

policy differences must not deter us from further consolidating our hard earned democracy," Cde Iivula-Ithana told a media conference in Windhoek on Thursday. "Therefore, the existence and growth of those democratic institutions depend on how we treat them."

"As members of the Party in power, it is incumbent upon us to lead the way and for others

to follow. Let us move on with vigour as we continue to offer social and economic solutions to our people as outlined in our Political Program and the SWAPO Party Election Manifesto of 2009, other than keeping ourselves bogged down in destructive squabbles."

The High Court judgment delivered by Judge President

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