

'We have done our best' – Pohamba

By Levi Upula and Esau Muzeu

President Hifikepunye Pohamba says he is satisfied with what the government has achieved over the last five years, despite many challenges that have yet to be overcome.

Addressing the last session of his first Cabinet which he appointed shortly after he was sworn in as President in 2005, President Pohamba said that many positive results had been recorded in different sectors.

He cited as examples the Green Scheme and Kalimbeza Rice Projects, which he said had gained momentum; road construction projects that had been carried out and schools and clinics that had been built over the past five years.

"As we look back at the past half a decade," said President Pohamba, "we are proud that our country has continued to enjoy peace, stability and security and to be governed according to the constitutional framework adopted at independence 20 years ago.

"Yes, there were many challenges and the work demanded dedication and commitment. I am happy that we stood together as a team striving for a common goal to carry out the mandate bestowed upon us.

"This sense of unity made it possible for us to advance the agenda of development, service



From right: President Hifikepunye Pohamba, Deputy Prime Minister, Dr Libertine Amadhila, Prime Minister Nahas Angula, and Justice Minister Pendukeni Iivula-Ithana before the last Cabinet Session on Tuesday. Photo by Levi Upula

delivery and rural development that we set for ourselves in March 2005."

The government, he said, had also recorded positive results in promoting foreign direct investment, citing the Old Mutual building, the opening of new uranium mines in the country, the construction of Ohorongo

Cement Plant near Otavi and the ongoing exploration activities for oil and gas as examples.

Local investors have also done well over the past five years, citing the Super Diary Farm near Mariental, the Windhoek Hilton Hotel and investments by various companies in the fisheries sector as

examples.

"These successes and many others give us the confidence to believe that our country remains on track despite other challenges that we face. "...we must feel proud that we have achieved a lot in creating prosperity for our country.

"We must be proud that dur-

ing the past five years, we served the Namibian people through hard work, dedication and patriotism," he said. "The new government to be inaugurated soon and indeed future governments will continue to build on the strong foundation that we as Members of Cabinet have helped to put in place."

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sure that we are in tune with the various stages of our evolution. We must be proud to lift our flag high for we have found a formula of living in peace and harmony. I call on all SWAPO Party cadres, at all levels of the SWAPO Party structures, from the top leadership, to regional, to districts, branches and sections to rally all the Namibian people to actively participate in the activities of the 20th Anniversary Independent Celebration. The government of the Republic of Namibia has prepared a programme for the celebration which is to be published in the media services throughout the country. Since

the main celebration will take place in Windhoek, all people of Namibia who are able to travel to the capital should do so and join in the celebration.

Our mighty SWAPO Party is a proud organization, proud of its historical achievement of liberating the motherland. The liberation of Namibia was a gigantic responsibility which the SWAPO Party shouldered and for which it preserved, till the day the chains of colonial bondages were broken.

The colonization of Namibia was a part of a large scheme concocted by racist Europeans to subjugate the African people. For many centuries, the African people suffered untold inhuman degradation, killed inhumanely in millions, enslaved

and their resources plundered only to build fortresses in Europe and the America. However, the sheer determination and conviction of the Africans overwhelmed the racist forces and dislodged them from the continent.

The Namibian revolution finds its roots in the early years of the Namibia's occupation when our ancestors sternly resisted occupation and laid their lives in pursuit of a free people. We pay homage and tribute to their visionary leadership and foresightedness that set the stage for the following generations to fulfill their legacies. It is because of them that the years of Namibia's intense armed liberation struggle waged by SWAPO, a revolutionary spirit of patriotism, nationalism, determination, selflessness and commitment engulfed the entire nation, particularly the black oppressed majority, to take up arms and fight the enemy profusely. Our people were inspired by the leadership of Dr Sam Shafiishuna Nujoma, the leader of the Namibian revolution, who led SWAPO and its People's Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN), in style and kept the revolutionary spirit ignited through his beliefs and indeed through his noble deeds.

We pay tribute to the fallen

heroes and heroines of the revolution who laid down their lives and paid the highest price for the liberation of our motherland. It is because of them that we are a liberated people enjoying the fruits of their labour. As we celebrate, the Namibian people must not forget the assistance we had received from the people of good will from international communities, particularly from our compatriots in the Republic of Angola, Republic of Cuban, former non-alignment movement, and many others who provided material, weaponry, and shed blood side by side with us to liquidate our enemies. We will forever remain indebted to them.

Therefore, we have all the reasons to celebrate while, at the same time, recalling the past gruesome events so that our generation and those to come will never fall prey to the same or any other force oppressor. Today, all Namibians are testimony to the high and quality yield of the fruits of independence. In the years of post independence, our country has been progressively experiencing development in all fields of endeavours and is now rightly occupying its position in the world of nations. The SWAPO Party, having transformed from a mass liberation movement to a mass political organization, re-

main an authentic representative of the Namibian people vigorously pre-occupied with the upliftment of the lives of all citizens. Remaining true to its principles and noble beliefs, the SWAPO Party has rolled out programmes and projects large and small to proper Namibia to greater heights. Our Party will continue to keep Namibia safe and secure by guarding the nation against the vises of destruction which continue to manifest themselves in all shapes and forms. The gains achieved on the molding of the nation during the 20 years of independence have -not come easy. The nations have faced challenges from detractors who have been bent on causing disturbances at the expenses of the Namibia masses. The people of good will in Namibia have remained alert and vigilant not to allow their nation eroding into anarchy and chaos.

Their voices have been loud and clear about the direction they desire to be steered. Of recent, the people of Namibia swept the SWAPO Party to power at the 2009 Presidential and National Assembly elections. Self-centered individuals with ill intentions of reversing the gains of independence and propagating regime change were rejected by the people of Namibia with the contempt

they deserved. The great majority of Namibians could not be fooled to believing in the false prophecies of glittering words and empty promises interwoven in deceitful mal-intentions. As we speak now, they are working day and night trying but, in vain, to impose themselves on the Namibian people. Their dirty tactics are concealed in their deceptive preaching of a better future for Namibia. Their messages are, by in large, channeled through some of the self-styled media houses and false human rights organizations that, for the past 20 years, propagating hate and distasteful languages, of hopelessness, distrust and sowing the seeds of hatred.

Of recent, the vicious attack against the peoples' decision on the election of the political party of their choice speaks volume about the slippery path some members of the opposition parties pulling the country to. The court case being pursued by some opposition political parties and led by RDP demonstrates extend to which self-centered individuals are willing to go to take power. Members of the RDP have been the cause of discomfort to many Namibians in this country. Their tirades for chasing the self imposing realm of governance have been on for sometimes.

Mr Hidipo Hamutenya, the President of RDP, need has gone as far as joining the chorus singing regime change. He has now joined the defunct terrorist organizations of the UNITAs, RENAMOs and others bandits that had caused untold suffering, destruction and death against the people in their respective countries and of southern Africa. The Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS) which openly called the opposition political groupings in southern Africa to Germany to advocate and plan for regime change is a slap in the face of the Namibian people, dangerous and totally unacceptable. This callous attitude cannot be condoned. We call on all organizations harbouring the notions of regime change to desist from ever inciting our people and from illegally financing their political projects.

Just two weeks ago, we read an article by Dr Absai Shejavali who writes among other things: "The destructive seeds of witch-hunting and anti-Kwanyamism have now been sown within SWAPO. Innocent people are witch-hunted, denied opportunities, transferred unreasonably or lose their jobs simply because they happen to be of Kwanyama origin". It further states that: "Allegations are rife that some people within SWAPO have started to incite hatred between Ndonga and Kwanyama communities in north-central Namibia". He proclaims that the leaders of the SWAPO Party government have no fear of God and the

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