Can an African team win the 2010 World Cup?

By Kaye M Kambombo

WINDEHOE - Black Africa (BA) fought like real hungry lions to claim the Sam Nujoma Cup by 4-2 at the National Stadium last night.

SKW were the first to register a goal on the scoreboard. Gustav ‘Image’ Isaac scored for SKW in the 11th minute of the first stanza. Jerome Lusni equalised in the 25th minute. But just a couple of minutes before half time Gutin Edwin Korukuev of SKW found the back of the net to make it 2-1.

By the look of things BA seemed to have been overconfident and have underestimated their opponents.

BA’s technical department gave

Clive Faba the impression that en畅chantements do not only happen in Istanbul but also in the Land of the Brave (Namibia).

In the second half Adebayo Katjiteo with the combination of Louis was a marvel to watch. Whenever there was a goalmouth scramble the duo were always at the right time and space. Katjiteo wasted no time to put BA on equal terms (2-2).

One of the BA’s attacking midfielders Clarence Foroma added another goal in the 57th minute to make it 3-2, with Bantum sealing the SKW’s coffin with a crossing 35 yard distance missile to make it 4-2. Louis could have produced a hat trick but he hit the post.

In the second half Adebayo Katjiteo and Jerome Lusni scored one goal apiece for Black Africa against SKW.

Spitting fire in the second canto. The Ranga Haikali magic gave

Choose your eyes and try to imagine the scenes of jubilation across Africa if a team from the continent were to win the 2010 World Cup.

A celebration like no other, one billion people reveling in one of the greatest sporting and cultural achievements.

For the first time in its 80-year history football’s blue riband competition is coming to the world’s poorest and most underdeveloped land. How better to mark the occasion than with a first African champion?

“Weining the World Cup would be one of the proudest moments in the history of that country and our continent as a whole,” former South Africa striker Shaun Bartlett said BBC Sport.

“Every African nation has its internal problems but football can do wonders for people and nations, which is a huge incentive.”

Nobody is saying it is going to happen but the groundwork of

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Fifa announces World Cup seeds

Hosts South Africa will play the opening game of the 2010 World Cup on 11 June after being seeded in Group A.

But France, World Cup winners in 1998, missed out on a place in the eight top seeds announced by Fifa on Friday.

The other seven seeds are holders Italy, Argentina, Brazil, England, the Netherlands and Spain.

This means France are left as the most dangerous floating team who could be drawn in the same group as any one of the top eight seeds.

The draw for the finals will be made in a 90-minute television spectacular starting at 1700 GMT on Friday.

The 32 teams will be drawn into eight groups of four.

Apart from the seeds, teams will be placed in pots which will largely avoid teams from the same continent meeting each other. Pot 1 will comprise the eight top seeds with South Africa already sure to play in Group A and in the opening match at Johannesburg’s Soccer City stadium on 11 June.

The second pot will comprise eight teams from Asia, North and Central America and Oceania - Australia, Honduras, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, North Korea, South Korea and United States.

The third pot will be the five other African countries and three remaining South American nations - Algeria, Cameroon, Chile, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Paraguay and Uruguay.

The final pot is made up of the eight remaining teams from Europe - Denmark, France, Greece, Portugal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia and Switzerland.

The decision on the groupings and potting group work means that the seeded teams would most fear being drawn into a group which included the United States from pot two, Ivory Coast from pot three and France from pot four.

Pots for Friday’s draw: eight groups of four to be drawn, each group containing one country from each pot.

Pot 1 (seeds) - South Africa, Brazil, Spain, Netherlands, Italy, Argentina, England, France

Pot 2 (Asia, Oceania and North/Central America) - Japan, South Korea, North Korea, Australia, New Zealand, United States, Mexico, Honduras

Pot 3 (Africa and South America) - Ivory Coast, Ghana, Cameroon, Nigeria, Algeria, Paraguay, Chile, Uruguay

Pot 4 (Europe) - France, Portugal, Slovenia, Switzerland, Serbia, Denmark, Slovakia