At a glittering and glamorous Gala Presentation Dinner of the African and Indian Ocean Award ceremony of the World Travel Awards, held for the first time on the African continent at the Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg, on the 7th July, Dr Aupindi Tobie Aupindi, Managing Director of Namibia Wildlife Resorts, was voted Namibia's Leading Tourism Personality of the year by 183,000 travel and business leaders from all over the world.

The World Travel Award is the "Oscar" of the travel industry and is a celebration of those individuals and organizations that have made the greatest contribution to the global tourism and travel industry, and recognises those brands that are driving the industry to greater heights and innovation in travel.

This year, 18,000 industry professionals participated in the voting process, which is independently audited.

The Gala Dinner was attended by several hundred distinguished guests, including the tourism industry's senior professionals, major tourism leaders and high ranking government representatives, international business leaders and people from the entertainment business.

The event also received extensive regional, national and international broadcast and print media coverage through the event partners such as WorldMobi, BIC World News, Breaking Travel News and eTurboNews.

Guests were treated to entertainment by a diversity of international and local artists, including the Soweto Maninina Youth Leagues during welcoming drinks, and by Sterling EQ, African Footprint, Kwele Teba, the Clinic Crew, Comedians, 4 African Airways' top comedians, Trevor Noah.

Winners of awards at the African and Indian Ocean Gala Ceremony will compete against the best throughout the world at the World Travel Awards Grand Finale, which will take place in London (UK) in November, immediately before World Travel Market.

During the interviews with the international press, Aupindi told the press that Afrcians can only emancipate themselves from pov

"ity if they try to overcome a co-

lonial influenced present, battle against mediocrity and regain their rightful place on the global stage.

I feel that economic develop-

ment, economic growth and em-

powerment of the African people is no longer negotiable.

Aupindi paid tribute to the in-

ternational media personalities and travel executives from all over the world. According to Aupindi, "Namibia is a peaceful country for all of us, including Ya Nangoloh.

I do not want my name to be used for personal gains. Let him be assured that Namibia's laws protect everyone.

Mrs. Maria Alwendo informed me that she put my name on the list without my consent and I ask her to withdraw my name from the list. The apology she wrote is not clear. She therefore should do it clearly for the benefit of the country.

I do not want my reputation as a peace-loving Namibian to be tarnished with those who hate Namibia. I am a peaceful country for all of us, including Ya Nangoloh.

I not want my name to be used for personal gains. Let him be assured that Namibia's laws protect everyone.

Mrs. Maria Alwendo informed me that she put my name on the list without my consent and I ask her to withdraw my name from the list. The apology she wrote is not clear. She therefore should do it clearly for the benefit of the country.

I do not want my reputation as a peace-loving Namibian to be tarnished with those who hate Namibia. I am a peaceful country for all of us, including Ya Nangoloh.

I do not want my name to be used for personal gains. Let him be assured that Namibia's laws protect everyone.

Mrs. Maria Alwendo informed me that she put my name on the list without my consent and I ask her to withdraw my name from the list. The apology she wrote is not clear. She therefore should do it clearly for the benefit of the country.

I do not want my reputation as a peace-loving Namibian to be tarnished with those who hate Namibia. I am a peaceful country for all of us, including Ya Nangoloh.

I do not want my name to be used for personal gains. Let him be assured that Namibia's laws protect everyone.

Mrs. Maria Alwendo informed me that she put my name on the list without my consent and I ask her to withdraw my name from the list. The apology she wrote is not clear. She therefore should do it clearly for the benefit of the country.

I do not want my reputation as a peace-loving Namibian to be tarnished with those who hate Namibia. I am a peaceful country for all of us, including Ya Nangoloh.

I do not want my name to be used for personal gains. Let him be assured that Namibia's laws protect everyone.

Mrs. Maria Alwendo informed me that she put my name on the list without my consent and I ask her to withdraw my name from the list. The apology she wrote is not clear. She therefore should do it clearly for the benefit of the country.

I do not want my reputation as a peace-loving Namibian to be tarnished with those who hate Namibia. I am a peaceful country for all of us, including Ya Nangoloh.