

# SWAPO fries RDP

By Staff reporter

The Namibia nation is shocked by the unfounded allegations made by Mr. Hidipo Livius Hamutenya, President of the RDP. The gravity of these allegations is so serious that they cannot remain unchallenged by any sober-minded democratic person. No self respecting person could make such unfounded allegations unless he or she does that under the influence of something best known only to him or herself. Mr. Hamutenya alleged that the SWAPO Party has been using loopholes to cheat and win all previous elections. SWAPO has won all elections including the first election of 1989, which was controlled by the Apartheid South African imposed administration and directly supervised by the United Nations. Does Mr. Hamutenya also imply that SWAPO used loopholes to cheat and win that election?

He must be embarrassed by what he had said at Okongo. We in SWAPO Party challenge Mr. Livius Hamutenya to come out with concrete evidence of the cheating he has alluded to



Secretary General of SWAPO Party, Cde Pendukeni Iivula-Ithana, Deputy SG and SPYL Secretary Cde Elijah Ngurare. Photo by Anna Nakambale



Founding Father Cde Sam Nujoma and Secretary General of SWAPO Party Cde Pendukeni Iivula-Ithana handing over a video camera to Cde Asser Ntinda Editor of Namibia Today. Photo by Anna Nakambale

on Sunday the 01 November 2009 at Okongo. If Mr. Hamutenya has been aware of cheating by the SWAPO Party, why has he hidden this from law enforcement agencies? It is only common sense that if one goes with a group to steal he too is a thief himself. We in the SWAPO Party are not aware of any cheating, Mr. Hidipo Hamutenya is alluding to, if he was cheating then he must have been doing it all alone and not in the name or

on behalf of the SWAPO Party. He must come clear on whose behalf he has been cheating. I have been in the leadership of SWAPO before and after independence and have attended most meetings, where policy decisions were taken, but at no time have I participated, witnessed or heard plans on the topic of cheating appearing on any agenda of the SWAPO Party.

The nature of cheating we do not know, hence Mr.

Hamutenya needs to provide irrefutable proof beyond any reasonable doubt of his alleged cheating. If he fails to do so, then the law enforcement agencies must call him in order to give sworn statement before them. Failure to do so SWAPO Party reserves its right to seek redress before the Court of Law in this specific instance.

I also wish to reject with deserving contempt the baseless

Cont on page 2

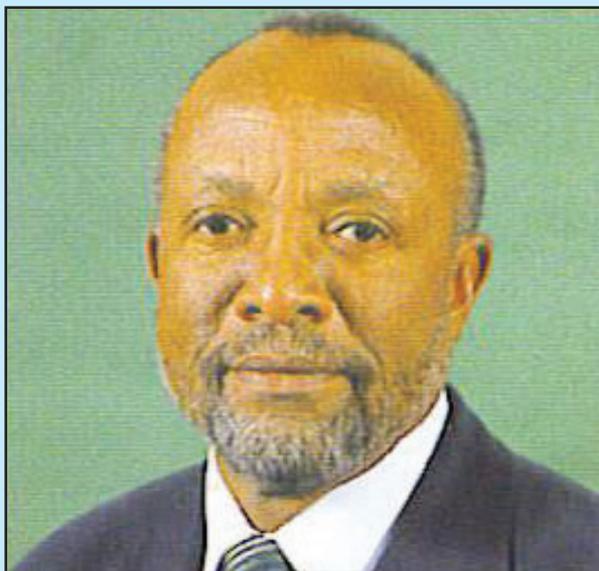
## CLARIFICATION ON BURSARIES OF CHILDREN OF SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

By Hon. Nangolo Mbumba

Much has been said and written regarding what is termed “Chinese Bursaries of Children of Senior Government Officials”. Some have even alleged that the bursaries were given to the Namibian Government through the Ministry of Education and that influential Government Senior Officials used undue influence to have such bursaries allocated to their children or relatives at the expense of the poor.

The Ministry of Education has explained the procedure as to how such bursaries were awarded but it seems there is still misrepresentation in some of our print media. It is, therefore, necessary to clarify this matter once and for all.

The Namibia Students Financial Assistance Fund hereinafter referred to as the Fund is governed by the Namibia Students Financial Assistance Fund Act, 2000 (Act No. 26 of 2000). The Act lays down procedures for student financial assistance. It establishes a Board with statutory powers regarding the administration of the Fund. As a policy, the income levels of parents or guardians is one of the determining factors for a successful applicant. I refer you to the last box of number 19 on the Fund application



Hon. Nangolo Mbumba

form. For example, the application form requires the applicant to provide: “Proof of income/salary payslip of both biological

parents or original declaration from the Commissioner of oath of unemployment status made by the parents/guardians themselves”. As a result of this policy, the combined parental income should not exceed One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$150,000-00) per annum.

In order to ensure that many students from low income families benefit from financial assistance, the Government budgeted Two Hundred and Thirteen million, Seven Hundred and Seventy-Two Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$213,772,000-00) in the current budget. As a result, the Fund is financing 6000 students this year. Since the creation of the Fund in 1997 to date, a total of 35,000 students have been assisted. The assistance applies to both students who are studying at tertiary institutions inside the country and those who are studying abroad.

It must be stated that in addition to the financial assistance offered by the Fund, there are scholarships offered to GRN through the Ministry of Education by friendly countries. Since 1997 to date, about 473 scholarships have been offered by friendly countries. This year alone there are [70] such scholarships from countries such as Algeria (25), China (10), Croatia (1), Cuba (15) Czech

Cont on page 4