

come”.

The natural phenomenon of the evolution of the SWAPO Party is to be consistent with the ever changing processes that take place in the Namibian society, whether such changes are cultural, social or economical. One of the major litmus test the SWAPO Party is facing is her ability and capability to continue influencing and setting the political agenda of the country. It is the political agenda that is a center stage for influencing the all other major elements of our society.

Since the independence of Namibia, the SWAPO Party has done spectacularly well in preserving a thriving society whose members see a prosperous future through magnified binoculars and clear evidence of tangible achievements. For this, we deserve a pack on our back.

Whilst the SWAPO Party has established the foundation for

the development of the country, individuals surpassed by ambition and self-serving interests have sold their souls to dreams of one day wresting the government of the Republic of Namibia from the SWAPO Party and steal the our achievements for selfish gains. They have gone out to gullible people of the world, who themselves harbour dreams of demised colonial conquests, placating themselves as the saviours and rescuers of Namibians from invented portrayal of poverty and misery.

The High Level Preparation Workshop on 2009 Presidential and National Election for the Regional Top Leadership has been called on the eve of one of the challenging elections the SWAPO Party has faced since 1989. I am saying so having in mind the fact that the born frees will for the first time cast their votes. The elections are coming at a time when the SWAPO Party is also facing a savage attacks from not only

opposition parties but from a well thought out and orchestrated plans to bring about regime change.

The Sub-Committee on Information, Publicity and Voters Education, after laborious deliberations, consider it appropriate and necessary to call a high level workshop involving the Regional leadership to ensure that the SWAPO Party runs a well coordinated campaign to secure the desired seats in the National Assembly and to ensure that His Excellency Comrade President Hifikepunye Pohamba is elected decisively.

A workshop of this nature presents opportunity for all of us involved in the elections to share information and learn from one another methods and tactics that are effective in our endeavour to annihilate the enemy in the 2009 Presidential and National Assembly elections. My ambition and expectation from this workshop, in the nutshell, is to see that the

participants reach a common understanding on the many elements of the elections to be discussed. Furthermore, I aspire to see that information shared and gained from the Workshop permeates through to the entire regional leadership of the SWAPO Party in the region and to the foot soldiers who are the torch bearers of the message of the SWAPO Party to the masses, be they in the most remotest areas of the country.

Said Cde EKandjo: “The Sub-Committee on Information, Publicity and Voters Education has gone out of its way to identify topics deemed relevant to matter at hand that we are facing at the end of November 2009. It is essential that each and every potential voter for the SWAPO Party is thoroughly exposed to voters’ education to ensure that no spoiled ballot is experienced.

“The workshop should, therefore, devote adequate time and ensure that this topic is exhausted and not left to chance.

Elections are about the winning of the hearts and minds of electorates. In the case of the SWAPO Party is it the retention of the majority of votes we already have. However, we are saying that this is not satisfactory to the SWAPO Party.

“It is incumbent upon us to ensure that the born frees are brought on board and new other recruits are brought into the Party and find comfort in voting and securing a better future for themselves. The responsibility of election is a mammoth task which compels a Party of our caliber to mobilize and garner all the resources necessary to ensure the running of all the election machineries.

SWAPO Party is by far the only Party that commands magnitudinal human resource capacity, which if properly and effectively harnessed, is sure to guarantee delivery of catastrophic and devastation defeat of the opposition party. In these elections, we must not take any prisoners. They must all face

the blunt of the pendulum and made to be disassembled not ever to think and conceive of recovery.

“Effective administrative machineries must be employed to ensure our well deserved victory. The High Level Preparatory Workshop on 2009 Presidential and National Assembly Elections for the Regional Top Leadership must reach deep into its core of intellect and ponder on how administratively the elections can be won.

“When the history of Namibia is written one day, SWAPO will go down as having stood firm while others have wavered, that it fought for the liberation of the country where others compromised”, a wise man and magnificent man I know once said. We uphold these well spoken words as true testimony of the character and characters the SWAPO Party as we embark on a road ahead into full fledge campaign for 2009 Presidential and National Assembly Elections.

SWAPO Party reaches maturity

By Eliphias M Dingara

The SWAPO Party Electoral College which was held on 5 and 6 September 2009 was again a clear demonstration of the maturity and capacity of the SWAPO Party to expand and deepen the process of democracy.

We have, yet again, ensured that the notion of democracy is entrenched within the SWAPO Party. And further ensuring that the SWAPO Party captures the imaginations of the Namibian people, we are proud to present the 2009 SWAPO Party Election Manifesto to the electorate.

Our children are the future of our country and it is important that our programmes and policies are designed to meet the current and future needs of the youth.

The 2009 SWAPO Party Election Manifesto presents the policies and strategies of the SWAPO Party for the next five years. Once the mandate of the SWAPO Party is renewed, which every Namibian is sure will be the case, this Manifesto will serve as a Contract between the SWAPO Party and the Namibian people. The SWAPO Party will, therefore, continue to transform the strategies contained in the Manifesto into practical and implementable projects and programmes to accelerate economic growth, to consolidate service delivery and to improve the living standards of all Namibians.

The 2009 SWAPO Party English Election Manifesto is in many parts of Namibia and will also be printed in all Namibian languages. Our aim is to enable all Namibians to read and understand the Manifesto for themselves. In order to



Comrade Dingara handing over the SWAPO Party Election Manifesto to Samora Machel District Coordinator

monitor the implementation of the commitments made in the Manifesto, the SWAPO Party will put in place a monitoring and evaluation mechanism to track the pace and effectiveness of the implementation of the 2009 SWAPO Party Election Manifesto on a regular and systematic basis. 3 This will enable us to know where objectives are being met and where changes may be necessary. It will therefore enhance effectiveness in the fulfillment of the commitments that we have made to the electorate.

This Manifesto is inspired by the heroic deeds of the heroes and heroines of our struggle who sacrificed their lives and shed their precious blood for the independence and democracy that we enjoy today. It is also inspired by the bravery of the workers, peasants, youth and students who have been and remain the pillars and the foundation of the SWAPO Party.

Therefore, it is no coincidence that the SWAPO Party remains deeply rooted in these sections of our society and they will continue

to be the focus of our policies. We are confident that the people of Namibia will once again demonstrate their support for the SWAPO Party by giving us a renewed mandate in the forthcoming elections.

We are the Party that brought about freedom to our country. We are the Party that made it possible for a new Namibia to join the community of free nations. We are the Party that, through supreme sacrifices, paved the way for freedom, peace, and prosperity. The SWAPO Party is determined to continue to build the firm foundation that has been built since 1990 to provide a better life for all. The SWAPO Party will continue to fight crime, combat poverty, unemployment and to provide efficient and high quality services such as education, health care, housing, electricity and potable water. When we came to power nineteen years ago, many communities, particularly in rural areas, had no access to potable water, electricity, houses, jobs and social security. Health care was not ac-

cessible to most of our people. The country did not know respect for the rights of workers or the basic conditions of employment. We were a nation divided.

We are proud to say that 19 years of independence we have made significant progress in the improvement of the living standards of the Namibian people. We can all take pride in the fact that, in many respects the lives of our people have been changed for the better. This positive change brought by socio-economic development is continuing in all parts of the country.

The task before the SWAPO Party is that of moving forward with the second phase of our struggle, namely of the struggle for economic emancipation and development in order to create wealth for our people. The SWAPO Party will intensify efforts to combat the challenges posed by poverty, hunger, disease, and ignorance and to improve the day-to-day lives of all our people, s We will do everything in our power to accelerate job creation through the promotion of value addition, manufacturing and the promotion of small-and medium enterprises. We will continue with the implementation of our short, medium and long-term development plans to make sure that Namibia achieves the goal of becoming an industrialized economy as envisaged in our Vision 2030.

We will continue with the social investments in the sectors of health and education to create a healthy, skilled and productive labour force that can make Namibia more competitive at regional and global levels. We will continue to improve the capacity of the law enforcement agencies and institutions to combat crime and to guarantee security for all our people and their

properties. We will tackle crime and disorderly conduct by insisting on tougher sentencing for serious crimes, providing more to the police and local councils, putting more police officers on the streets and ensuring that our correctional services are repositioned to reform offenders especially the youngsters so that they do not become hardened criminals.

We will continue to protect families in their own homes and the public at large. During the past nineteen years, we have demonstrated that our goals are achievable. Moreover, Namibians have shown that by joining hands across all sectors of society and working together, even the most difficult problem can be overcome. eThe SWAPO Party is the winning party! Unlike others, our party has the will, the capacity and the necessary experience in the area of governance to bring about a better life for all citizens in our country. The SWAPO Party will continue with ongoing policies to ensure a fair and equitable distribution of resources to all communities in all parts of our country.

During the forthcoming elections, the SWAPO Party will put forward committed candidates who will articulate the needs of our people and work hard to find effective and durable solutions to the challenges facing our people. During the coming elections, we urge the Namibian people to vote for the SWAPO Party, The SWAPO Party Government is committed to bringing the fruits of development to all our people.

In the five years ahead, Namibia needs a leadership committed to higher economic growth, strong infrastructure, excellent public services and the building of stronger communities. We will vigorously pursue policies and programs geared towards addressing the inherited social inequalities and the elimination of all other vestiges of apartheid colonialism. This will enable us to further combat poverty, unemployment and improve the health of our people by combating the scourge of HIV/AIDS. The Aids pandemic is a significant challenge. Because of it, we are faced with a human, economic, political and social calamity that affects each one of us. Namibia has

a small population of 1.8 million people and we cannot ignore the danger that has befallen our villages, towns and cities as a result of this disease.

We will continue to act proactively in search of effective solutions to address the scourge of HIV/AIDS. Land redistribution and the elimination of other social ills will also receive attention.

The choice facing Namibian voter during this year’s election is clear. It is whether we will continue to build on strong foundation that we have already built, or whether we will take the risk of losing the gains of the hard-won independence, progress, peace and prosperity of the past nineteen years.

We are therefore encouraging all the Namibian people to make the right choice. We must send a clear message that all eligible voters have a civic duty to vote. In this manner, voters will contribute to the process of democratic governance in the country.

The SWAPO Party is campaigning to be given another mandate to continue with the work of serving the Namibian people. We have already taken huge steps to secure a brighter future for our country. Indeed, we can do more. 8 Today, by launching the 2009 SWAPO Party Election Manifesto, we are inviting the Namibian people to read this document and to understand the undertakings that the SWAPO Party is making to the electorate.

During the campaign, SWAPO Party members will interact with the voters in order to provide more information about the content of the 2009 SWAPO Party Election Manifesto. The SWAPO Party remains the only driving force for peace, development, and stability in Namibia. The Party has delivered on its promises to the Namibian nation over the past 19 years. It is a tried and tested political Party with the credibility and capacity to yet again deliver on its promises. We are, therefore, inviting you to vote for the SWAPO Party during the Presidential and National Assembly Elections in November. Your vote for SWAPO Party is a vote for a secure future, peace and prosperity. It is now my distinct honour to declare the 2009 SWAPO Party Election Manifesto officially launched here.