



**STATEMENT BY HIS EXCELLENCY DR SAM
NUJOMA, FOUNDING PRESIDENT AND FATHER
OF THE NAMIBIAN NATION, ON THE OCCASION
OF SWAPO PARTY RALLY**

**ONHELEIWA
ETAYI CONSTITUENCY
OMUSATI REGION**

5 JULY 2009

Honourable Governor of Omusati Region, Comrade Sakaria Kayone;
Comrade Titus Kanyeke, SWAPO Party Regional Coordinator for Omusati Region;
Honourable Regional Councillor of Etayi Constituency, Comrade Shekutamba;
Honourable Regional Councillors Present;
Aasimanekwa Omalenga nOoyene Yomikunda;
Comrade Members of the SWAPO Party Regional Leadership;
Comrade Members of the SWAPO Party District Leadership;
Comrades:

I feel deeply honoured for the invitation extended to me to come and address you on this occasion of the SWAPO Party Rally here at Onheleiwa today.

This year, our country attains 19 years of nationhood after we achieved our genuine Freedom and Independence on 21st March 1990. As we reflect on those years of statehood, we must bear in mind that freedom and independence that we enjoy today was not given to us on a silver platter. As you may all recall, during the struggle for national liberation, SWAPO fought a bitter war of resistance against the illegal occupation of our country by the white minority apartheid regime of South Africa.

The people of Onheleiwa and the surrounding villages made enormous contribution and sacrifices towards the attainment of our freedom and independence by providing shelter, food and information about the movement of enemy troops to the People's Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN), SWAPO's military wing. The enemy has perpetrated brutality and barbaric retaliation against innocent civilians in order to intimidate and stop them from supporting the national liberation struggle, especially our people who live in the then war zone. In spite of the enemy repression, the people of Onheleiwa braved the sinister plots of the enemy and stood firm until final victory was achieved.

The people of Onheleiwa, Oikokola and other surrounding villages also braved the attacks of Savimbi's UNITA bandits who wrecked havoc and derailed development in our northern sisterly country of Angola. Here in the border areas, our people lost their cattle and other valuable possessions. We should therefore appreciate that peace and stability has returned to Angola and our brothers and sisters there are now laying the foundation for genuine

socio-economic development. We should continue to cultivate a good neighborliness with our Angolan brothers and sisters and concretize the bonds of friendship and solidarity between our two countries and peoples.

Comrades;

Immediately upon the attainment of our genuine Freedom and Independence on 21st March 1990, the SWAPO Party Government embarked upon the second phase of the struggle for economic independence with the clear purpose of eradicating poverty, diseases and ignorance.

During the past nineteen years, the SWAPO Party Government has implemented milestone development projects in all the thirteen regions of our country. These include the development of physical infrastructures such as the deepening of the ports of Walvis Bay and Luderitz, the construction of the Trans-Kalahari and Trans-Capriivi Highways, the Northern Railway Extension from Tsumeb to Oshikango as well as the rehabilitation of the railway line from Aus to Luderitz and the construction of the tarred road from Rosh Pinah to Aus.

During this 2009/2010 Financial year, our Government is improving the road from Rundu to Elundu which forms part of the extension of the Capriivi High Way through Okongo-Eenhana-Onuno-Omafo-Okalongo-Outapi-Tsandi-Omakange-Opuwo to Agra Fria where a new harbor will be built. We have adopted a national road master plan to build more roads and connect the rural areas to urban centres to facilitate the movement of passengers, goods and services.

Comrades;

The development and improvement of agriculture remains one of the priorities of the SWAPO Party Government. Over the years, our Government has initiated programmes which are aimed at improving animal husbandry and crop farming, including the establishment of extension engineering services in the rural areas.

We have also established aquaculture projects in various regions of our country. Here in Omusati Region, the Government has established the Onavivi Aquaculture project, while the Etunda Irrigation project is

progressing very well. We have also initiated the Green Scheme along the Kavango and Zambezi Rivers in order to improve food security in our country.

Efforts are being made to establish silos in several parts of the country so that we can enhance food self-sufficiency in our country. I am appealing to the residents of the Etayi Constituency to establish aquaculture projects so that we can improve the livelihoods of our communities.

The pilot project on rice production which is co-managed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry and the University of Namibia is progressing very well. I am therefore urging the residents of Etayi Constituency to approach the Ogongo College of Agriculture so that they can assist you to start rice production.

Comrades,

Our country can only achieve success, when we have a critical mass of qualified personnel in the critical areas of socio-economic development. In this connection, education and training have received enormous attention since independence.

With the clear purpose of providing quality education to our children, the SWAPO Party Government built and expanded primary and secondary school enrolment. Here in Etayi Constituency, we have built classrooms and today no child is attending school under the tree. Two combined schools, namely Onampira and Ekango Linene have been turned into junior secondary schools.

In addition, the SWAPO Party Government has expanded academic programmes at the University of Namibia and the Polytechnic of Namibia as well as teacher training colleges and vocational training centres throughout the country.

This year the University of Namibia has opened a Faculty of Engineering and Information which was inaugurated by His Excellency Comrade Hifikepunye Pohamba, President of the Republic of Namibia at Ongwediva in April this year. Next year, 2010, the University of Namibia will open the new Faculty of Medicine in Windhoek.

In few years, our country will have its own medical doctors and engineers trained in Namibia. I, therefore, call upon all parents to ensure that our children attend school and take their education seriously so that they pursue technical careers at our institutions of higher learning.

The SWAPO Party Government expanded the provision of electricity and potable water to the majority of our citizens, especially those in the rural areas. Here in the Etayi Constituency, 85 per cent of the residents have potable water. Plans are underway during this financial year 2009/2010 to expand a water pipeline to Ohakadu, Oshikuyu, Ohamuti and Okandongwena. In addition, electricity was extended to Etayi, Enoleu, Oshikushashipy, Oshuungu, Olupandu, Onheleiwa and Oshikuyu. Plans are also underway to electrify the remaining areas in Etayi Constituency in the next financial year.

Comrades;

A healthy nation is a productive nation. It is for these reasons that the SWAPO Party Government has expanded the provision of quality health care to all our citizens in all the thirteen regions. Here in the Etayi Constituency, we have built 8 clinics in partnership with our communities. The Government will continue to upgrade these clinics to ensure quality health service delivery. Indeed, I am informed that the clinic at Onheleiwa has been renovated while Omutundungu, Olupandu and Iipandayamiti clinics will be renovated and nursing homes will be built at these clinics during this financial year.

Comrades;

These are just some of the milestone development programmes of the SWAPO Party Government during the past nineteen years. The SWAPO Party Government will continue to implement its Election Manifesto and all our development programmes in order to realize Vision 2030.

I understand there are various opposition parties going around the country telling our citizens that the SWAPO Party Government has done nothing. Being political mature people, you can see for yourselves what the SWAPO-Party Government has done for this country and its people. As the saying goes, "*Action speaks louder than words*". Therefore, I am confident that our

people are mature enough not to be misled by such cheap political propaganda. SWAPO Party is the only party in our country that has the capacity to ensure the realization of Vision 2030.

Comrades,

This year, our country will hold Presidential and National Assembly Elections. As members of the SWAPO Party, we must enter these elections united and with only one common purpose, namely to win the elections with 100 percent. Political mobilization must be intensified so that we can win the elections with a resounding victory.

Remember, a united people striving to achieve common good for all members of the society will always emerge victorious.

SWAPO United!
SWAPO Victorious!
Now Hard Work!

I thank you!