



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

**KATIMA MULILO
CAPRIVI REGION**

27 JULY 2009

Director of Ceremonies;
 Comrade Governor of the Caprivi Region;
 Comrades Regional and Local Authorities Councillors;
 Honourable Traditional and Community Leaders;
 Comrades Members of the SWAPO Party
 Regional Executive Committee;
 Comrades Members of the SWAPO Party District Leadership;
 Comrades:

It is a great pleasure for me to be here and address you at Katima Mulilo today. I have come here specifically to work on the Kalimbeza rice project which is one of our national development projects, in line with the SWAPO-Party Election Manifesto as well as the Third National Development Plan (NDPIII). As I have stated on numerous occasions, the development of our country rest on our shoulders.

Over the years, we have proved that we can achieve success when we are united and work hard to complement our Government's efforts to accelerate the socio-economic development of our country. The clear example was the Northern railway extension project where all Namibians worked shoulder to shoulder. We should do the same on various projects that are initiated by our Government.

Indeed, upon the attainment of our genuine Freedom and Independence in 1990, the SWAPO-Party Government embarked upon the implementation development projects with the clear purpose of eradicating hunger, diseases and ignorance.

I am proud to state that over the past nineteen years, we have implemented various projects such as the development of physical and communication infrastructures, building of roads, hospitals and clinics, schools, provision of potable water, rural electrification and many others in the thirteen regions of the country. We have made good progress with the road construction projects forming part of the Trans-Caprivi and Trans-Kalahari Highways which are important routes between the Walvis Bay Harbour and Namibia's neighbouring landlocked countries such as Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

In 2004 while serving as President of our Republic, I had the opportunity to jointly open the Sesheke Bridge over the Zambezi River with His Excellency Levy Mwanawasa, President of the Republic of Zambia. The construction of this bridge is a clear demonstration of the SWAPO Party Government's commitment towards

the socio-economic integration of the SADC Region. The bridge will in the long-term enhance increased commercial trade and investments between Namibia and Zambia as well as the rest of the African continent.

The Northern Railway Extension Project from Tsumeb via Ondangwa to Oshikango is currently nearing completion. This railway project is intended to open up the northern part of our country in order to increase commercial trade between Namibia and Angola. Another major project expected to come on stream soon is the Opuwo-Cape Fria Road which will link the Trans-Caprivi Highway to the future Cape Fria Harbour.

The SWAPO-Party Government has built roads, network in order to link our rural settlements are linked to main town centres to facilitate the transportation of goods, services and passengers.

Here in the Caprivi Region, the Government has built the Kongola-Katima Mulilo as well as the Kabbe-Bukalo-Lusese gravel roads. The tarring of Katima-Linyanti road has been commissioned while the construction of Ngoma-Muyako-Kongola-Singalamwe is in progress.

In the Town of Katima Mulilo, we have also initiated projects that have the potential to enhance economic development and create hundreds of job opportunities for our people. These include the Zambezi Waterfront Tourism Park, the upgrading and expansion of the Zambezi Vocational Centre and the Construction of SME stalls: This year over 500 houses will be build in Katima Mulilo.

Comrades;

The SWAPO Party Government has prioritized the provision of health to all our people so that we can ensure a healthy and productive nation. In order to achieve our goal, we have constructed new clinics and health centres in all the thirteen regions. Here in the Caprivi Region, we have built the Mavuluma, Ngwezi and Cheto clinics, while the following health centres, namely Bukalo, Sangwali, Sibinda and Choi were upgraded with accommodation facilities. Furthermore, renovations were carried out at Lisikili and Sesheke clinics. The Katima Mulilo State Hospital was renovated to ensure that this regional hospital provides quality health services to the residents of the Caprivi Region.

With the view to enhance food security and self-sufficiency in our country, the SWAPO Party Government prioritized the development of agriculture. We have initiated several projects under the Green Scheme along the Orange, Kunene,

Kavango and Zambezi Rivers for crop production. The realization of these projects will enhance our country's capacity to grow food for own consumption and export the surplus to other countries. Currently, our Government is constructing silos and grain storage in all the regions to ensure food self sufficiency.

Scientific research carried out over the years has proved that the Caprivi Region has the potential for the crop and aqua-culture development. It is for these reasons that Fish Farms were established at Musasa, Lisikili and Kalimbeza villages in order to enable communities in these surroundings to earn income and improve their standards of living. The Kalimbeza and Likangenelo fish farming projects will be rehabilitated during the financial 2009/2010 financial year.

Comrades;

The harnessing of our natural resources remains one of the priorities of the SWAPO-Party Government. It was for these reasons that we have proclaimed conservancies in various parts of our country to improve the living standards of all our people. In the Caprivi Region, the SWAPO-Party Government proclaimed various conservancies such as Kasika, Salambala, Kwando, Mayuni, Wuparu, Mashi, Balerwa and Sobbe Conservancies.

We can only achieve our development goals if all our people are dedicated to hard work, honesty, transparency and discipline. In the same manner, all Namibians have a duty to teach and encourage our children to study hard at school so that they can pass their subjects and enroll in the institutions of higher learning in order to become doctors, engineers, geologists, architects, marine biologists, agriculturalists, economists, mathematicians and scientists who can contribute significantly to the realization of Vision 2030.

However, our youth can only participate meaningfully in the socio-economic development of our country if they have adequate technical knowledge and skills. It is for these reasons that we have expanded and improved educational programmes from primary, secondary up to the tertiary level. This year, the University of Namibia has opened a new Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology at Ongwediva which was inaugurated by His Excellency Comrade Hifikepunye Pohamba, President of the Republic of Namibia. Next year, the University of Namibia will open the new Faculty of Medicine so that we can train our medical doctors.

As parents, we should therefore encourage our children to attend school and encourage them to work hard and study science and mathematics subjects so that they can contribute to the realization of Vision 2030.

Comrades and Compatriots,

Our country still faces many challenges in our nation building efforts. We must therefore remain united and focus our energies on the application of scientific research and appropriate technology for development, proper planning and timeous implementation of our development plans and programmes. In this way, we will be able to achieve our strategic objectives namely, the eradication of poverty, diseases and ignorance as well as to enhance economic growth, employment creation and prosperity for all our people.

This year our country will held National and Presidential Elections. As members of SWAPO-Party, we are entering these elections with only one aim to win the elections with 100 percent. Therefore, mass political mobilization must be stepped up. We must continuously mobilize, especially those youth of our country who are voting for the first time to vote SWAPO-Party because it is the only party that has the capacity to lead our country towards the attainment of genuine economic independence.

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

SWAPO-United!

SWAPO-Victorious!

Now-Hard Work!