



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

**ONGWEDIVA MAYOR'S PARK  
OSHANA REGION**

**19 SEPTEMBER 2009**

**Director of Ceremonies;  
Honourable Ministers;  
Honourable Members of Parliament;  
Honourable Governor of Oshana Region and other Governors present;  
Aasimanekwa Aakwaniilwa nOmalenga;  
Comrade SWAPO Party Regional Coordinator for Oshana Region and other  
Coordinators present;  
Honourable Regional and Local Coucillors;  
Honourable Traditional and Community Leaders;  
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 at the SWAPO Party Star Rally at Ongwediva this afternoon.**

**Our country is in full swing to prepare for the forthcoming Presidential and National Assembly Elections which will take place on 27 and 28 November 2009. We in SWAPO Party are fully prepared and all our structures are more than ready to mobilize thousands of peace loving and progressive Namibians to vote SWAPO Party and give it another overwhelming mandate to govern our country for the next five years.**

**SWAPO Party stands firm, as it has always done to lead our country towards achieving victory in the second phase of the struggle for genuine economic independence. The priority above all priorities is to unite all Namibians under the motto “One Namibia, One Nation” so that we can maintain peace and stability in the country and accelerate all our development plans and programmes.**

**Two weeks ago on the 5<sup>th</sup> September 2009, the SWAPO Party launched its 2009 Election Manifesto in Windhoek. Our Manifesto is a living document that highlights, the SWAPO Party Government’s achievements and spells out the road map ahead to achieve Vision 2030.**

**The SWAPO Party is the only party that has the capacity to develop this country, accelerate socio-economic development and eradicate diseases, poverty, ignorance and under development from the Republic of Namibia.**

Immediately upon the attainment of our Freedom and Independence on 21<sup>st</sup> March 1990, the SWAPO Party Government embarked upon the second phase of the struggle for economic independence with the clear purpose of improving the standard of living of all our citizens.

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 via Ondangwa 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 tarring the road from Rundu to Elundu which forms part of the extension of the Trans Capriivi High Way through Okongo-Eenhana-Onuno-Omafo-Okalongo-Outapi-Tsandi-Omakange-Opuwo to Agra Fria where a new harbor will be built. Our Government is also improving road infrastructures in various parts of the country.

Here in the Oshana Region, we have constructed roads to connect rural areas to urban centres, including the Oshakati-Ompundja; Eheke-Ondangwa; Ohalushu-Ondangwa gravel roads. We have also paved all the streets in all the urban centres such as Oshakati, Ongwediva and Ondangwa. The SWAPO Party Government is now busy building a 59 km gravel road to Otamanzi via Uuvudhiya. Once this road is completed it will alleviate transport problems to the Uuvudhiya and Otamanzi Constituencies, especially during the rain reason. The SWAPO Party Government will build more roads, in line with our Election Manifesto so that we can facilitate the movement of passengers, goods and services and thereby speeding up the socio-economic development of our country.

**Comrades;**

The development and improvement of agriculture remains one of the priorities of the SWAPO Party Government. Over the years, our Government has imitated programmes which are aimed at improving animal husbandry and crop farming, including the establishment of extension engineering services in the rural areas. We have established agricultural extension centres in all the Constituencies of our country in order to help communities increase agricultural production.

**Last month, I attended Oshipe Cultural Festival at Eenhana in Oshana Region, where the best Mahangu Producers for the year 2009 received awards. I would like to urge all our communities to work harder to improve food production. We must at the same time add value to our agricultural produce.**

**The SWAPO Party Government has initiated the Green Scheme along the Okavango 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. We must produce our own food and avoid dumping of poor quality food from foreign countries. As the saying goes, *“don’t feed a person with fish; rather teach him or her how to catch fish to sustain him/herself”*.**

**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 by the SWAPO Party Government since independence. We have built and expanded primary and secondary school enrolment. Here in the Oshana Region, the SWAPO Party Government has built additional classrooms and established new primary as well as secondary schools.**

**To date, Oshana Region rates 94 per cent of the total national primary school enrolment. This is indeed a remarkable achievement by the SWAPO Party Government. More primary and secondary schools will be built to ensure the provision of quality education to our children.**

**Indeed, we will only achieve success when our parents complement our Government’s efforts in this regard. We must ensure that our children attend school and provide them with enough food, clothing and other necessities to work harder at school.**

**Moreover, 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.**

**This year, the University of Namibia has opened a Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology which was inaugurated by His Excellency Comrade**

**Hifikepunye Pohamba, President of the Republic of Namibia and of the SWAPO Party at Ongwediva in April 2009.**

**Next year, 2010, the University of Namibia will open the new School of Medicine in Windhoek. In the near future, 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 can pursue technical careers at institutions of higher learning. We must build a strong educational foundation by introducing computers at the Kindergartens in order to cultivate information technology orientation among our children while at tender age. Our education system should put more emphasis on our children to study science and mathematics subjects in order to develop our economy to its fullest potential, hence to produce our own scientists, medical doctors, engineers and other technical personnel.**

**Comrades;**

**Over the years, the SWAPO Party Government has expanded the provision of electricity, potable water as well as affordable housing to the majority of our citizens. Here in the Oshana Region, the majority of our residents now have potable water and access to electricity.**

**We have also made efforts to provide quality housing to thousands of urban dwellers in various parts of the country, including Oshakati, Ondangwa and Ongwediva. Ongwediva is now one of the fast growing towns in the northern parts of our country. This was only made possible under the SWAPO Party Government.**

**As you are all aware, a country can only achieve sustainable socio-economic development when its people enjoy good health. It is for these reasons that the SWAPO Party Government has improved the provision of quality health care to all our citizens in all the thirteen regions. Here in the Oshana Region, the SWAPO Party Government has built 3 Health Centres and 12 Clinics in various Constituencies. The Oshakati State Hospital is currently under renovation in order to provide quality health service delivery to our people.**

**We can only accelerate the socio-economic development of our country when we attract investments to our towns and urban centres. By so-doing, we will be able to create additional employment opportunities for many of our unemployed citizens.**

**I am pleased to state that the Oshana Regional Council has done remarkably well in this regard. We are witnessing massive investments in Oshakati, Ongwediva and Ondangwa which have created thousands of employment opportunities for thousands of our people. I would like to further encourage Local and Regional Councillors to provide support and information to our local business people, especially our SMEs to grow and develop in order to enhance competitiveness and accelerate economic development in our country.**

**Comrades;**

**As I have stated on numerous occasions, the development of our country rests on our own shoulders. Therefore, we must always volunteer ourselves to work on various national projects that are initiated by our Government. I would like to inform you that the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry in consultation with the University of Namibia are embarking upon rice production at Kalimbeza Rice Project in the Kabbe Constituency in the Caprivi Region.**

**This Kalimbeza Rice Project will be inaugurated by His Excellency Comrade Hifikepunye Pohamba, President of the Republic of Namibia on the 9<sup>th</sup> October 2009, as a national project. I, therefore, would like to urge the residents of the Oshana Region and all Namibians in general to volunteer themselves to work on this important national project, as we have done with the Railway Extension Project from Tsumeb to Oshikango via Ondangwa where Namibians from all corners of our country have participated.**

**The SWAPO Party Government will continue to implement its Election Manifesto and all our development plans and programmes in order to realize Vision 2030. The SWAPO Party Election Manifesto is the only Election Manifesto in the entire Namibia which is valid, reliable and based on scientific research to provide solutions to the challenges that we face in our socio-economic development. So you must study it and embrace it. It is a national contract with all the people of Namibia that the SWAPO Party has undertaken to deliver quality public services and eradicate poverty, hunger, diseases and ignorance.**

**I understand there are various opposition parties going around the country telling our citizens that the SWAPO Party Government has done nothing. Such statements are false and based on anger, frustration and tribalism. Do not expect such parties to deliver anything meaningful. They are only serving the self interests of their masters. I am confident that our people are mature**

**enough not to be misled by such disgruntled elements. SWAPO Party is the only party in Namibia that has the capacity to realize Vision 2030.**

**Therefore, I urge all Namibians to ensure that they register for the forthcoming elections and vote SWAPO Party for the maintenance of peace, unity, economic independence and prosperity for all. We must ensure that SWAPO Party emerges with 100 per cent from these elections on 27 and 28 November 2009.**

**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!**