

# NAMIBIA TODAY



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# Erongo sets bar high

## SWAPO win inevitable

By Staff Reporters

The end of opposition parties running the two coastal towns of Walvis Bay and Swakopmund began last Saturday when SWAPO drew its largest crowd ever to its star rally which was addressed by SWAPO presidential candidate, Cde Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah.

banks last Saturday for the first time since the town's reintegration into Namibia in 1994, when it accorded Cde Nandi-Ndaitwah and her delegation a hero's welcome in Erongo Region, setting the bar very high for opposition parties to match it.

Kuisebmond in Walvis Bay burst its

Some media houses, well known for

their anti-SWAPO antics since independence in 1990, tried to overshadow the impact of this massive rally with the way food was distributed to ordinary people who attended the rally. This

minor incident was just a distraction and could not overshadow the success of the rally.

The rally was preceded by drive-throughs along the main streets of Walvis Bay. Hundreds of cars bedecked with SWAPO flags joined

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“As a party, we have been together with the people throughout. When there are challenges, we are there. When there is happiness, we are with them” Nekongo

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# VP unpacks Manifesto for Erongo

By Staff Reporters

SWAPO Party Presidential Candidate, Cde Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, has unpacked the Party's Election Manifesto for Erongo Region when she addressed her first massive rally last Saturday since the launch of the Party's Manifesto in Windhoek two weeks ago.

After being introduced to the crowd by SWAPO SG, Cde Sophia Shaningwa, Cde Nandi-Ndaitwah introduced the Manifesto and the list of 96 candidates SWAPO had fielded for the National Assembly elections amid prolonged applause and chanting of slogans from the restless crowd.

The star rally followed shortly on the heels of the State of Region Address by Governor Andre Neville, in which he outlined regional achievements and drawbacks experienced over the last year.

Cde Nandi-Ndaitwah unpacked what was in the Manifesto for Erongo Region when it came to national projects on road network, health and social welfare, education, water and electrification.

On achievements, she mentioned the Swakopmund-Walvis Bay Road, known as Hifikepunye Pohamba Highway, which began in 2022. The construction and tarring roads in Okombahe settlement would start soon. Arandis roads would also be tarred soon. The Henties Bay-Uis Kamanjab, once tarred, would connect Erongo Region to the rest of northern Namibia.

Erongo is home to 12 277 children who receive social grants amounting to N\$4,29 million, 15 456 old age pensioners who

Unpack page 2

VOTE SWAPO PARTY AND ITS PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE CDE DR. NETUMBO NANDI-NDAITWAH 27 NOVEMBER 2024

SWAPO PARTY

UNITY IN DIVERSITY: Natural Resources Beneficiation and Youth Empowerment for Sustainable Development

Tel: (061) 238364 P.O Box 1071, Katutura, Windhoek, Namibia Email: info@namiNamToday.com.na Website: swapo-party.org





Erongo Governor Neville Andre Itope

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the procession that seemed endless for the best part of the morning. Houses upon houses along the streets had SWAPO flag hoisted high. People jumped out of their houses, chanting 'Viva SWAPO, Viva Mee Netumbo' as cars passed by.

The spirit was overwhelming. The procession, with cars hooting, drew many people along the roads before converging at the Kuisebmond Stadium.

Flanked by SWAPO Party Secretary General, Cde Sophia Shaningwa, and Deputy Secretary General, Cde Uahekua Herunga, VP Nandi-Ndaitwah hailed Erongo Region for hosting its massive star rally.

"This huge crowd says it all," she said. "The town of Maxuilili is rekindling itself. The spirit of Maxuilili (Omundilo wo kapalwa) is with us. May his soul rest in eternal peace."

Cde Nandi-Ndaitwah said the history of SWAPO would never be complete without mentioning Erongo Region in general, and Walvis Bay in particular. Walvis Bay served as one of SWAPO Party centers of



political activities in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

"Here comes Erongo Region," says one SWAPO official. "The people you see here are residents of Walvis, Swakopmund, and neighbouring communities here. I mean, more than 90 percent of the people here are from the Erongo Region. We are back to where we were in the 1990s."

Walvis Bay and Swakopmund fell into the hands of the opposition parties during the 2020 regional and local authority elections. This was the first time SWAPO lost control of the two key towns in Erongo since Walvis Bay was reintegrated into Namibia in 1994.

"We have felt the pain of opposition party politics here running Walvis Bay and Swakopmund," said one resident. "Things have been getting worse and worse since 2020. Opposition parties have proven themselves that they are no credible alternatives to SWAPO. We have felt their mess. We will never make that mistake again."

Organizers of the rally underestimated the turnout in terms of logistics and other arrangements. As a result, some young

people took advantage of the situation and unexpectedly jumped onto one of the trucks loaded with food parcels and started throwing food to their friends in a chaotic manner.

"Some media houses and opposition parties used this unfortunate incident to discredit and present SWAPO as an uncaring party," says one of the officials who served in one of the committees that oversaw the organization of the rally.

"I can tell you authoritatively that this was not how food was distributed at all. SWAPO would never throw food at people like that. Never. Those people who threw food parcels were not designated to do so by SWAPO. We will never do such a thing."

"But you know it's an election year. Opposition parties feel the pinch. They are losing their members to SWAPO. And November is just around the corner. For them, it's game over. Discrediting SWAPO is their last weapon, hoping to garner some support before November. But it's too late."

"SWAPO will win the Presidential and National Assembly elections in November. SWAPO will win next year's regional



and local government authority elections. About that, we are confident.

"These people never attended the rally for food. They came to show solidarity with SWAPO in the Erongo Region. They came out in big numbers to show how fed up they were with opposition parties. It has been hell for them since the last regional and local authority elections in 2020.

"They are the first victims and witnesses of the 'regime change' doctrine that culminated in IPC and AR parties taking over the coastal towns. They will never make that mistake again."

Erongo Region has seven constituencies. Arandis, Karibib, Omaruru, Usakos were won by SWAPO during the 2020 regional and local authority elections. IPC took over Walvis Bay Urban, Walvis Bay Rural and Swakopmund, while Daures went to UDF.

"Walvis Bay and Swakopmund will be back into SWAPO's fold," said one Walvis Bay resident. "We will wipe out IPC from Erongo Region."

### Unpack from page 1



receive N\$21,63 million and 3,738 people with disability who receive N\$5,23 million annually.

The number of learners in Erongo Region rose 53 538 in 2023 to 56 313 in 2024, forcing the government to increase teachers from 1,996 to 2,019 over the same period. Additional 51 classrooms and nine ablution blocks were built at different schools in Erongo Region.

Henties Bay boasts Vocational Training Centers, which have provided skills in trades such as carpentry, plumbing and hospitality. These training facilities have made many young people employable and boosted businesses in the region.

"These examples represent Erongo's overall development strategy, which

emphasizes sustainability, community involvement, and economic resilience. We are committed to youthful programs and initiatives to create jobs for the young people," said Cde Nandi-Ndaitwah.

N\$29 million was spent constructing a 23 km water pipeline between Ozondati-Omatjete, while N\$1,14 million was spent on a five kilometer water pipeline from the borehole to the !Nara Center in Walvis Bay Rural Constituency.

As part of its electrification of rural areas and informal settlement, N\$16 million was availed to Omaruru Town Council to provide electricity to informal settlements in the town. This project is about to be completed.

Erongo Region houses one of the shining examples that neatly fits well into



this year's campaign theme, "Unity in Diversity: Natural Resources Beneficiation and Youth Empowerment for Sustainable Development."

It is the Marmarwerke Marble Factory in Karibib where value addition is in full swing. Cde Nandi-Ndaitwah visited the factory on her way to Walvis Bay and left impressed by what she had seen. Here marble stones are extracted and processed into the final product of tiles for both local and international markets.

"We believe in unity, and as the saying goes, unity is strength," she said. "In the same breath, when we talk of the natural resources beneficiation and youth empowerment for sustainable development, Erongo has a lot to offer."

She said the Manifesto was very clear, easy to read and to understand, realistic and spot on. Job creation, however, remained key to taking people out of poverty and bringing about sustainable development.

"It has also to be known that what we have put in our Manifesto, we are not going to plan. We have already planned for those programs. They are going to be implemented as articulated," she said.

"The reason why we put in the Manifesto the monitoring and evaluation program is to ensure its full implementation. Where we may fall short, there must be compelling reasons.

"That Netumbo and in my capacity as the SWAPO Party Presidential candidate, what is in my heart is Namibians, and I will do what I say."





**ITULA  
FROM PAGE 1**

“Show me one single leader in that party who did not get a western education,” Itula said.

He said both former president Hage Geingob and current president Nangolo Mbumba studied in the US.

According to Itula, chief justice Peter Shivute, judge president Petrus Damaseb, the speaker of the National Assembly, Peter Katjavivi and minister of home affairs, immigration, safety and security Albert Kawana all studied in the UK.

“I found them there and I know them all because I was their leader. I was the Swapo leader of students in the UK from 1981 until 1988. I know them all. They all studied in imperialist countries – why are they not imperial-

*Here, IPC President Panduleni Iitula lies through his teeth. His claims that he was the “leader” of SWAPO students in Britain have been shot down as cheap election gimmicks. But why should Iitula stoop so low and tell such lies when he knows that there are people who can detect such lies and expose him as a pathological liar? He has squeezed himself dry with his lies.*



*Poor unemployed people were paid peanuts to bear such placards at robots along Windhoek streets. This is an inhumane treatment indeed. Read Zoom In on this page*



**Zoom In**



*By: Asser Ntinda*

**B**eware of toxic liars. Independent Patriots for Change, IPC, President Dr Panduleni Iitula, once claimed that IPC had over N\$600 billion “lying some where” in the country to solve all of Namibia’s problems such unemployment, land issues, housing, and the plight of the war veterans. The devil, however, was in the details. IPC would only “release” that money if Namibians vote for it first in November this year. It was a poorly laid bait.

They say a pathological liar is like a mirage in the desert. He only delivers signs of deception. Namibia’s national budget is N\$100.1 billion. The money “lying somewhere” is six times more than our entire national budget. Where did Iitula get the N\$600 billion from? Why doesn’t Iitula show the money first, if it’s really there? It is as simple as that. This was a laughable political gaffe indeed.

Pressed hard by some media practitioners to show Namibians where the money was, Iitula promised to reveal where that money was on August 2 this year. That date came and passed without him keeping his promise. To date, Iitula is stone silent about the N\$600 billion. He is as quiet as a mouse, just as if he had not said it.

IPC has also promised to give every unemployed person a job. It’s now paying job-seekers at robots to spread their message. See a photo on this page. These are dry signs of deception. It’s inhuman to exploit people like this. No person with moral values will go to that extent.

The N\$600 billion lie has not yet dried up, but Iitula, out of the blue, came up with another one again. He promised to cut ministries from 23 to 15, thus saving N\$2 billion. But eight ministers and their deputies do not earn N\$2 billion, which he claims he will “save.” Unless Iitula dissolves all 8 ministries and lay off all their employees, he will never save that N\$2 billion simply by getting rid of 8 ministers. Don’t lie! Voters are not dorks.

Cutting ministries from 23 to 15 is cheap talk. You get rid of ministers. What about employees in the ministries Iitula dissolves? For his cost-cutting measures to make sense, he must dismiss all of them as well. Will he? Of course, he will not. These are mere election gimmicks. Iitula is a charlatan of note. Don’t be fooled by such cheap tree to tree monkey tricks.

As if such lies were not filthy stinking enough, Iitula promised again to save N\$32 billion by getting rid of deputy ministers. This suggests, quite laughably, that deputy ministers alone earn N\$32 billion. True, maths is not for everybody.

Last year, Iitula claimed that he was the “leader” of SWAPO students in Britain from 1981 to 1988. This was another lie. Mwahafar Ndilula was the leader of SWAPO students in Britain until 1987 when he left for Angola. He was replaced by Petrus Damaseb, who held that position until 1989. In fact, Iitula was banned from addressing meetings on behalf of SWAPO in Britain because of his unruly behaviour. This fact was confirmed by Ambassador Shapwa Kaukungwa, who was SWAPO Chief Representative there at that time.

All these lies point to a project that has snapped and gone off the rail. There is nothing to glue it together anymore. Such lies are just false steps in a mating dance that has gone wrong, pointing to a party that has run out of steam. But such lies will not save it either.

The reality is slowly stinking into Iitula’s head. He is facing a dead end. The Iitula of 2019 is not the same as the Iitula of 2024. They are two different figures. Iitula conveniently forgets that he campaigned as SWAPO in 2019 and got the votes he got because he was SWAPO. If he thinks that SWAPO members who supported him in 2019 still support him in 2024, he will be shell-shocked on November 27.

The reason Iitula performed the way he did in 2019 was precisely because he was SWAPO. He walked, danced, pranced, and sang SWAPO. In 2024, Iitula is IPC. The difference on 27 November will send him packing and walking for another 5 years before he tries again to walk to State House.

Until Iitula comes clean on who finances those IPC’s fleet of cars, plus the N\$600 billion, which he says IPC has, Namibians must not be fooled. Someone somewhere filthy rich must be bankrolling IPC. Who are these people? Beware of the “regime change” agenda!

We, at Namibia Today, take umbrage at these regime change residual forces that find space in our democracy, using proxies to mollify their defeat at the hands of former liberation movements. Let sparks fly. We will undress them for all to see, come November 27!

IPC members are very funny. They daily pile SWAPO with mud and dirt, but when SWAPO members return the favour, they sing like drugged canaries. What sort of political sorcery is this? If you speak badly about SWAPO, SWAPO will retaliate in kind. Balance!

SWAPO is the unbeatable team. Failure of courage will not define our stand. Nerves of steel will. We have gone through everything. Our horses are prepared for the day of battle.

In 2024, Iitula is IPC. He sings IPC. He dresses IPC. He preaches the gospel of IPC. He goes out in public as IPC. Come November 27, Namibians will meet and bury him as that figure.

There is a new sheriff in town. That new sherrif, Mee Netumbo, will beat the hell out of Iitula, come November 2024.

2019 is certainly not 2024. Those SWAPO members and leaders who supported Iitula in 2019 will never join Iitula’s latest political jamboree in 2024. Iitula has made his choice, so too must he live with its consequences. SWAPO is made of strong steel. Others have tried in the past to bend it, but they dismally failed. Iitula, too, will suffer the same fate. About that, there is no doubt.



*VP Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah and SWAPO SG Sophia Shaningwa as they arrived at the Kuisebmond Stadium last weekend.*





# 'Swapo is ever ready,' Nekongo

By Uaeza Kanguatjivi

Swapo Party Youth League secretary Ephraim Nekongo says the party's manifesto is carefully crafted by members from various regions to make it as comprehensive and inclusive as it is currently in form and content and format.

Nekongo said the party utilized the computable general equilibrium (CGE) model to draft its election manifesto. Nekongo made this statement during Swapo Talks Igniting Conversations of National Interest with Swapo Party, the party's program that aired on Tuesday, September 17.

The discussion, held under the theme "Unpacking the Swapo Party Election Manifesto 2025-2030," was moderated by Andreas Marungu, a member of the SPYL Central Committee, with Hallo Angala, a member of the Swapo Party Think Tank, as a panellist. They responded to accusations from economic analyst Rui Tyitende and opposition leaders, who claimed the party had used ChatGPT to craft its manifesto. This comes after the party recently launched its Election Manifesto on September 14 for the period 2025-2030.

Responding to this Nekongo said "It's not true. That political opportunist, so-called analyst, just wants to score cheap



SPYL Secretary, Cde Ephraim Nekongo.

prepared for the election cycle, boasting a robust structure across Namibia. "We are the only party that is ready in this country in terms of elections," he said.

He detailed the party's comprehensive preparation process, which included renewing its structures at every level—from sections to branches, districts, and regions. "Our members have already been engaged during that process," Nekongo explained.

The party's readiness was further evidenced by their recent policy conference and Electoral College, aimed at formulating and implementing

working towards greater inclusivity," Nekongo stated.

He highlighted the party's ongoing efforts to review its policies and potentially amend its constitution to ensure young people are adequately represented in decision-making processes.

The Swapo Party manifesto outlines a vision for enhancing youth involvement in all aspects of governance, from parliament to local government.

Nekongo urged SWAPO members and sympathizers to mobilize and vote, stressing the importance of making their voices heard. "It's up to us to vote and ensure that our voices are heard," he emphasized.

Addressing concerns about the representation of different groups, Nekongo reassured that the manifesto caters to diverse needs across society. He noted that while the party had made significant strides, it remained committed to continuous improvement and inclusive governance.

As SWAPO gears up for the upcoming electoral cycle, its manifesto underscores a strong commitment to integrating young people into its ranks and fostering economic development.

Angala highlighted the manifesto's commitment to a diverse range of societal groups. Among the primary focus areas were young people, including those with special needs, single mothers, and the creative industry.

She stated that the party aims to address the needs of unemployed graduates, enhance agricultural support, and improve educational opportunities.

According to Angala, one major highlight of the manifesto is the party's

plan to prioritize sports development within the first 100 days of the new term. This initiative includes the construction of multiple international and regional stadiums, designed to elevate Namibia's sports infrastructure and provide new opportunities for athletes.

The creative industry also features prominently in the manifesto. SWAPO has outlined a sector strategy that includes funding through grants and vocational training aimed at enhancing skills in the arts. This move is expected to support the growth of Namibia's cultural sector and provide new avenues for young artists and creative.

"Special attention will be given to young people with special needs, with plans to review and improve support systems, including enhancements to the National Special Fund for Abilities (NASFA). Single parents, particularly single fathers and widows, will also receive increased psychosocial support and assistance," she said.

In terms of employment, the manifesto promises significant investments in job creation for graduates, with allocated funds for national youth programs and apprenticeship opportunities. This initiative aims to address the high unemployment rates among young people and provide pathways to meaningful employment.

Agriculture is another key focus, with plans to support young people in the sector through funding, subsidies, and policy reviews. SWAPO intends to enhance agricultural infrastructure and promote commercial farming as part of its strategy to boost the sector's contribution to the national economy.

Additionally, Angala added the manifesto outlined plans for natural resource beneficiation, including the enactment of a law to ensure Namibia benefits substantially from its resources. This includes reserving supply opportunities for Namibians and empowering small miners with technical support.

Guest Speaker and Economist Jason Kasuto highlighted the often unseen effort behind publication outputs. During his address, Kasuto said that significant work went into academic papers and their models. He further pointed out that the extensive behind-the-scenes efforts were not always visible to readers, underscoring the complexity and dedication involved in academic research and presentation.



SPYL Youth Rally at Ongwediva, Oshana Region.

politics so that he can win for his other political party. I urge party members and supporters to remain resolute, go and support the party. Let's go and vote for the Swapo Party and our presidential candidate.

The manifesto outlines commitments of the party towards its rank and file and Namibians across the world.

Addressing recent criticisms, Angala defended the manifesto's development process, emphasizing that it involved extensive research, policy conferences, and contributions from various party branches and think tanks.

Angala asserted that the manifesto represented a deliberate and comprehensive effort to address Namibia's pressing needs and aspirations.

Nekongo says the party has a deep connection with the people and its readiness for the upcoming elections. "As a party, we have been together with the people throughout. When there are challenges, we are there. When there is happiness, we are with them," Nekongo stated.

He added that SWAPO is uniquely

new policies and ensuring effective governance. "We want to take over all the seats in parliament so that we can be able to deliver prosperity faster," Nekongo asserted.

Nekongo emphasized the party's efforts to integrate younger members into its ranks. "We have been vocal about the need for coexistence within the party—where there is youth, there must also be wisdom from elders," he remarked. This principle, he noted, has guided the party's approach to involving younger leaders in shaping its future.

Nekongo applauded the emergence of young leaders from the Electoral College, acknowledging their vital role in the party's evolution. "Congratulations to the young people who have emerged during the Electoral College. That is progress," he said, underlining the significance of their participation.

He also addressed the broader issue of youth inclusion within the party, reflecting on past challenges and achievements. "The call for 40% youth representation was not achieved immediately, but we have listened to the feedback and are



Part of SPYL members who turned up at Ongwediva Youth Mass Rally a few weeks ago.



# Open letter to H.E. Dr. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah



By Fenny Tutjav

Firstly, it would be remiss if I do not take this opportunity to express my profound gratitude for the confidence Comrade Dr. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah has in me. I am honoured and humbled to have been appointed as a candidate for election to the 8th National Assembly.

This appointment, at the age of 22, is an extraordinary opportunity for me as a young Namibian who passionately believes in the transformative power of youth in our society. I am grateful for the trust that has been placed in me, and I stand ready to represent the voices of our nation's youth with conviction and purpose.

**A Generation on the Frontlines:**

The outcomes of the Electoral College of the SWAPO Party have highlighted that the party's youthful cadres are ready to serve this country. Young people, including "upper youth", have come out from the margins in numbers and are ready to participate in critical decisions that affect the future of this country. Of course, our generational mission will remain the attainment of economic prosperity for all Namibians.

In every corner of our country, young people are struggling with issues that directly impact their ability to grow, thrive and contribute meaningfully to our nation's development. I see this appointment and the outcomes of the "Pot", as not just a personal achievement, but a chance to amplify the voices of my peers and ensure that the issues we face are amplified and put at the forefront in our national discourse.

**Youth Unemployment:**

The pressing issue confronting young

Namibians today is unemployment. Despite being educated and ambitious, far too many of us find ourselves without work, or in jobs that do not utilize our skills. The official unemployment rate among youth is alarmingly high, and those numbers reflect real stories of frustration and hopelessness. Every year, thousands of young Namibians graduate from universities and colleges, full of ambition and dreams of contributing to the country's economy, only to find themselves stuck in a cycle of joblessness. Our focus must be to address this crisis with urgency and innovation as mandated by the SWAPO Party Manifesto.

Comrade incoming President, we are fully behind your vision and that of the SWAPO Party for Namibia's youth. Where opportunities are abundant and accessible. Where government, the private sector, and civil society work together to create employment pathways that are aligned with the realities of our modern challenges. In the National Assembly, I look forward to advocating for policies mandated in the SWAPO Party Manifesto. To ensure the fostering of an environment conducive to entrepreneurship, innovation, and a reduction in bureaucratic red tape that stifles young entrepreneurs.

**Creative and Arts Industry:**

A priority commitment must of course be centered around the creative and arts industry.

Namibian youth must be afforded the opportunity to make careers out of their passions. This is an industry that is untapped. The prioritization of funding allocations for the development of the creative and arts industry must be realized. This will unlock those untapped opportunities for creatives.

Bridging the Gap Between Knowledge and Opportunity Education is the key to unlocking the potential of Namibia's youth. While our country has made progress in increasing access to education, there is still a significant gap when it comes to the quality and relevance of that education. Many young people leave school or university with qualifications but lack the practical skills necessary to compete in a modern economy.

I believe that we must reimagine our education system to make it more inclusive, adaptable, and future-oriented. The world is rapidly changing, and we must ensure that young Namibians are prepared for the jobs of tomorrow. I will advocate for increased investment in Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths, Arts and Culture education, as well as digital literacy, to ensure that Namibian youth are not left behind in the digital revolution. More must be done to prepare young Namibians for the emerging markets of green hydrogen and oil and gas. Young people must align and familiarize themselves with these industries.

Moreover, I will be committed to your vision of expanding access to vocational education and training. It is apparent that not every young person will pursue a traditional academic path, but every young person deserves the opportunity to acquire skills that are relevant and marketable.

I too envision a Namibia where vocational training is not seen as a second-class option, but as a legitimate and respected pathway to success.

Education must speak to the market, institutions must make an effort to ensure that whatever they are producing should speak to the market: Policy issues.

**I Stand on the Shoulders of Giants:**

Whilst anticipating the execution of my role in the coming administration. I am reminded that I have access to individuals who were entrusted with this same task and have served this country from their early ages. I draw inspiration from the Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwahs, Sophia Shaningwas, Lucia Ipumbus and many others who have and continue to serve the people of Namibia with integrity and dedication. Their teachings and guidance will be crucial in executing this role bestowed upon me.

These individuals bring a wealth of experience in governance and leadership. They equally started their leadership journeys at a relatively young age. And as Comrade Dr. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah would say - "The SWAPO Party has and continues to groom young leaders to lead today and tomorrow."

In closing, I am committed to working tirelessly to ensure that the voices of Namibia's youth are heard and that the issues we face are addressed with urgency. To realize a Namibia where every young person has the opportunity to thrive and live a meaningful life. On towards a United and Diverse Namibia where our Natural Resources Benefit and Empower Youth for Sustainable Development. Thank you for this incredible opportunity to serve.

*Author: Fenny Tutjavi has been appointed as part of Vice President Netumbo Nandi Ndaitwah's ten nominees to the 96 member SWAPO Party National Assembly list. She is a student of Politics at the University of Namibia and has a keen interest in Governance and Politics.*



# Limbo fries IPC's Itula

**Open Letter to Dr. Pandulen F.B Itula**  
**REF: COMPLAINT REGARDING THE PURPORTEDLY ENDED ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE (PARLIAMENTARIANS) BOTH AT REGIONAL AND NATIONAL LEVEL.**

1. The above matter bears significant reference.

2. With all due respect, CP I am raising this very crucial and cannibalizing matter which I think our great party has or intends to allow space in our political decorum. Failure being not an option in these elections, I however anticipate disaster in the order, manner and systematic processes that were purportedly established by our Party at the Regional elective congress and at the National nomination of candidates at the just ended national elective congress for Members of Parliament (My emphasis in casu). The following are the identified red flags;

## 2.1 IPC Promoting tribalism

2.1.1 I wish to register this as a critical concern that, for some of us; I chose to break away from SWAPO for good and join IPC on the 07th of April 2021 as I viewed this party as none-tribal, none discriminatory and accommodative to all Namibians which is the contrary to SWAPO frameworks. It became disgusting to say the list, when we learnt that at Regional elective processes of Members of Parliament, delegates voted tribally and popularly and not patriotically or prudentially. This has led to or has seen the deployment of "birds of one feather" on a single tree. Chief Patriot, you are surely

aware of the current existing tribal tensions between especially the two bigger tribal groups, the Masubia and the Mafwe tribes in this Region dating back centuries ago.

The latter tribe has more Constituencies in the Region than the former and more so are also scattered around other Constituencies which often makes it difficult for the Masubia in particular to gain any reasonable political niche in any elective processes especially once anchored on tribal lines, and which often and in casu has been the precedence set.

2.1.2 Having noticed all this earlier by you, at the Regional election level which was already held prior to the national level congress, you as President of the party had prior knowledge of the tribal mismatch that the Zambezi Regional elective congress produced and thus you ought to have reasonably taken corrective steps to have balanced all four wheels of your political vehicle, by at least increasing the number of the Masubia tribe representatives from your ten (10) presidential nominees which you too failed to take note of or to foster.

2.1.3 Chief Patriot; allow me to express my disappointment at this and at what you deliberately intend to perpetuate if not promote, being a deadly disease called "tribalism" in our Region and notwithstanding the status quo and to which you are so critical of, but yet you chose to stay aloof if not ignorant.

I for one have been a victim of tribalism and had also intended to practice it during 2015-2019 in our Region, but then I quickly realized that it was a practice that was not idiotproof and I had to reconcile with many tribesmen and women for the sake of this country's democracy and for the sake of promoting unity, love and regional integration.

2.1.4 To this day, I am now friends with many of the Mafwe people, Mayeyi, and Mashi without incidences as we continue to embrace each other as brothers and sisters. More so we have put all our differences aside.

However, the political climate that this recent elective congress of our party, has produced leaves a void in the future as it is simply an attempt to break all eggs in one basket with a single quiver, as the process cannot be set denovo or declared void abinitio.

2.1.5 We are also in the circumstances and premises as Subias, that you tried to appoint Masubias from other Regions in an attempt to kind of cushion the mismatch. We are aware. That does not solve the current shenanigans as it just seeks to escalate it. We needed members from our own tribe in our own Region and not the other way round.

The Masubia are a big and diverse tribe to which you reasonably ought to have known and thus your nomination/appointments ought to have been directed in such view or binocular.

2.1.6 When I joined this dear party on the 7th of April 2021, I joined with at least 172+ Patriots who were dedicated to joining the party to help in fighting the raging corruption, injustices and tribalism among the many evils that the SWAPO party had subjected Namibians to. More so it would be the same people that I joined with who are now not happy with both the Regional and National elective results, and for your information are now already threatening to hand over their membership cards at your door steps, if this mismatch is not addressed by you' one way or the other and if not done so the soonest.

2.2 The irregular appointment/nomination of a certain Nyama Precious by the Chief Patriot from his best 10 appointees from Kabbe North but wrongly identified as from Kabbe South.

2.2.1 It is disheartening to learn that despite having known of the tribalized voting that was finalized at regional level, you still failed to balance that mismatch by appointing any credible member from at least the Masubia community to break the silence and visibly approaching loss of votes in especially Kabbe South, and parts of Kabbe North and Katima Rural Constituencies respectively.

2.2.2 This I assure you Chief Patriot will have a serious effect on the votes to the party should it be allowed to breed havoc as it has already begun. The nomination of Patriot Nyama is also mirrored by confusion in that she was introduced at Congress when her name was called

as from Impalila, in the Kabbe South Constituency while in fact, she is a resident of Kabbe North Constituency. All

this Chief Patriot, you could not pick up and rectify earlier before the appointment was cemented.

2.2.3 It is also noted that she is relatively new in the party compared to veteran Patriots who some even acted as your drivers and part of your security detail during your last visit to the Zambezi Region on their own personal sacrifice. "One may want to bring forth an interesting question, what criteria did you use to nominate your best 10 candidates, if the likes of Patriot Mahoto, Patriot Musialike and many others, to mention just a handful who had made more significant contributions and sacrifices to the party are not part to it?"

2.2.4 It is also common cause that Article 11 of the IPC Constitution states boldly as adopted that, a member of the party can only assume senior position appointments once that member attains at least one (1) of active and unwavering membership in the party. With that in consideration it is clear that the Patriot nominated by you supposedly from Impalila, Kabbe South (while she is from Kabbe North) in casu has not yet attained that length period being an active member prescribed under Article 11 of the Party Constitution as she was only met during your recent visit to Impalila (hardly a month ago if not two). Therefore, it is juristically common cause that the provisions of Article 11 of our Party Constitution are/ is prescribed and cannot be condoned whatsoever (the second detriment emphasis). That appointment in itself is meritless, incompetent at law, null and void. Moreso it is reversible as it is void abinitio.

2.2.5 As at present some branches especially in the Katima Rural Constituency where I had helped in the establishment of about 21 branches are already threatening to disband and to hand over their membership cards as they feel not being equally represented tribally. As you might reasonably be aware that, Katima -Rural Constituency has both Mafwe and Masubia residents and thus its distribution in terms of political equity is not only a challenge for our party but also with other parties. From all the 21 IPC formed Branches established, only 4 (four) currently in the Constituency are from the Mafwe tribe while 17 Branches are from the Masubia tribe. That in itself should immediately inform you of the inequality on the political dance floor of our party and on its tribal balancing decorum.

2.2.6 In light of the above mentioned I strongly submit the following recommendations for

your consideration;

(a) The immediate retraction of some members from your 10 (ten) nominees to include members from the Masubia residing in the Zambezi Region who are clearly not represented on the list.

(b) The immediate call for an extra ordinary congress where these shenanigans would be principally addressed to include patriots who were excluded based on tribal orientation.

(c) The taking of disciplinary measures against Patriots who promoted the vote by tribe syndrome at the Zambezi Regional



**IPC Panduleni Itula in hot water.**

elective congress, leading to this myopia, henceforth with full intent to promote tribalism, or to launch a full investigation in this regard.

(d) Further and/ or alternative relief/s.

2.2.7 A failure to address the recommendations highlighted in para 2.2.3 items ((a)-(c)) will result in a serious mobilization of all the Masubia people to be headed by our task force to disband all branches and return all the membership cards to the IPC National General Secretary on or before 18 October 2024.

2.2.8 Chief Patriot, kindly consider yourself informed, and I await your response in this regard by latest 18 October 2024 or earlier, for me to provide feedback to those equally unhappy that I joined this party with as mentioned in para 2.2.4 here above

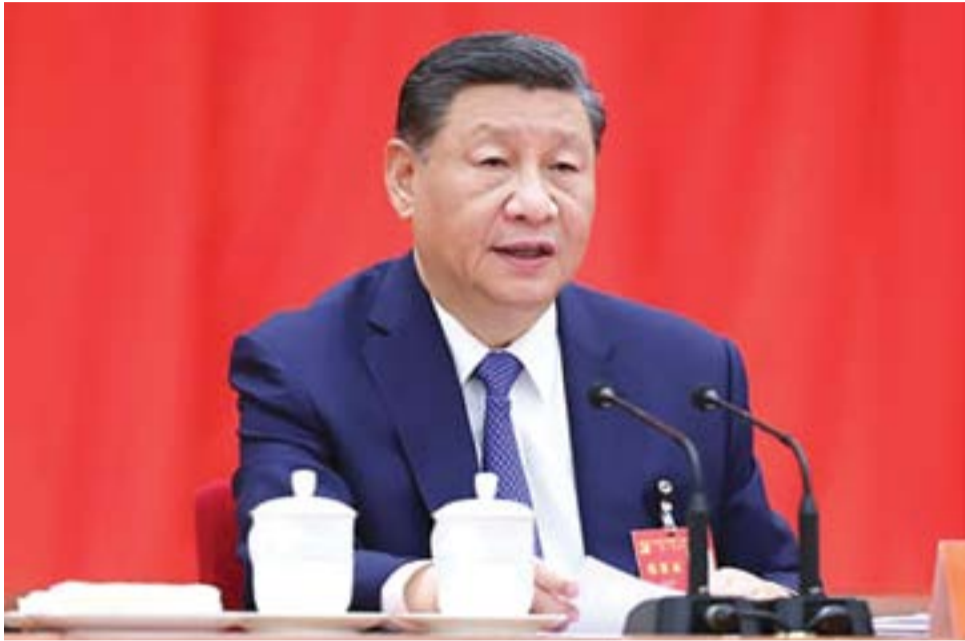
I so submit.

**Ptr. Martin N Limbo**

**Constituency General Secretary (Acting): Katima Rural Constituency & IPC Election and Mobilization Strategist (In the Office of the National Mobiliser)**



# China's Economic Reform Drives Impressive Recovery



By Uauenza Kanguatjivi

At the recently held third plenary session of the 20th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC), which took place from July 15th to 18th, Chinese leaders resolved to deepen reforms comprehensively to advance Chinese modernization.

As the highest organ when the National Congress is not in session, the Central Committee's plenary session marks a pivotal moment in the country's economic strategy, mapping out the need to deepen reform comprehensively to advance China's next stage of modernization.

The resolution set ambitious reform objectives to be achieved by 2029, coinciding with the 80th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. It outlined a commitment to reinforcing a "high-standard socialist market economy," which is vital for maintaining high-quality development and ensuring that China's economy progresses in alignment with its modernization goals.

The plenary session was attended by high-ranking officials from various sectors, including the Ministry of Science and Technology, the National Development and Reform Commission, and the CPC Central Commission for Discipline Inspection. Chinese President

Xi Jinping, who also serves as the General Secretary of the CPC Central Committee and Chairman of the Central Military Commission, issued significant instructions to the Central Committee and state departments to enhance high-quality development through strategic reforms and Party building.

This underscores the CPC's commitment to promoting reform and opening up, a fundamental tenet that has driven China's exponential transformation in recent years.

In his address, President Xi Jinping highlighted the importance of maintaining thrust in the face of global challenges. He stated, "In the face of a grave and complex international environment and the arduous tasks of advancing reform and development, our focus remains on securing progress while ensuring stability."

Speaking at the conference on July 31, Mr. Cai Qi, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and secretary of the Working Committee of the Central Party and State Institutions (WCCPSI), emphasized that "as the global landscape undergoes unprecedented changes due to technological revolutions and industrial transformations," China must "better harness market mechanisms" and

develop a fairer, more dynamic market environment.

Cai stressed the importance of aligning the actions of Party organizations at every level and all Party members with the decisions and arrangements of the Central Committee, urging them to "gain a profound understanding of the significance of the third plenary session" and "promote reform and development" proactively and creatively.

The resolution emphasized deepening reforms across various sectors to enhance economic vitality, including optimizing the business environment and boosting innovation and R&D investments.

It also highlighted the importance of fortifying political allegiance and enhancing the capacity of officials to implement necessary reforms for superior development. By reducing reliance on foreign trade and strengthening the domestic market, China aims to avoid detrimental competition with other economies and maintain a stable growth trajectory.

Recent data reflects China's shift towards a more balanced and independent economic approach. The share of GDP attributed to goods trade decreased from 64% in 2006 to 33% in 2023, indicating a reduced reliance on international markets. The current account surplus also declined from 9.95 percent of GDP in 2007 to 1.5 percent in 2023, showcasing the economy's move away from export-driven growth.

The session reaffirmed the "two unswerving" principles: unwavering support for the public sector and encouragement for the non-public sector. This balanced approach is seen as crucial for fostering innovation, enhancing competitiveness, and maintaining economic stability. The resolution called for structural reforms across various areas, including improving macroeconomic governance, promoting innovation, and integrating urban and rural development to create a robust economic framework that supports sustainable growth and modernization.

China's reform strategy represents an ongoing process of reform and opening up, aiming to pave the way for a broad and prosperous future. Despite internal structural changes and uncertainty in the global economy, China's economy continues to demonstrate resilience and adaptability.

The country's GDP grew by 5.0 percent in the first half of the year and 4.7 percent in the second quarter, reflecting the success of government policies in maintaining economic stability and promoting sustainable growth.

China's GDP increased significantly from 99 trillion Yuan approximately (N\$ 247 trillion) in 2019 to 126 trillion Yuan (N\$ 315 trillion) in 2023, indicating a consistent annual growth rate of 5.2%. As of 2023, China's share of the global GDP was 18.5 percent, up by about 5 percentage points from a decade ago, highlighting the country's rising prominence on the international stage.

China's emphasis on industrial upgrading and technological innovation is a major contributor to its economic resilience.

The country emerged as a leader in global manufacturing, accounting for 35 percent of global output, more than all industrialized economies combined. However, there has been a strategic shift from manufacturing to services, with the services sector's contribution to GDP rising to 54.6 percent in 2023. This transition underscores China's commitment to optimizing its industrial structure and enhancing productivity across sectors.

The third plenary session concluded with a call for deepening institutional reforms to ensure that Party building and economic reforms remain aligned with the holistic goals of advancing Chinese modernization and overcoming global challenges.

This directive aligns with the guiding principles established during the session, emphasizing the need for comprehensive reforms to advance Chinese modernization and maintain economic resilience in the face of global uncertainties.

## Australia: More than 10,000 nurses and midwives strike against Labor government cuts

World Socialist Web Site Martin Scott

More than 10,000 nurses and midwives rallied across New South Wales (NSW) yesterday in a 24-hour strike against the Labor government's real-wage slashing pay offer. This followed a 12.5 hour strike on September 10.

The state Labor government, led by Premier Chris Minns, has offered health workers, along with most other public sector employees, a nominal pay rise of

just 9.5 percent over three years, less than the current official inflation rate of 3.8 percent, itself a vast understatement of the soaring cost of living.

The NSW Nurses and Midwives' Association (NSWNMA) has advanced a demand for a 15 percent pay rise this year, itself totally insufficient to make up for previous cuts imposed in union-government agreements.

The main demonstration, outside NSW Parliament in Macquarie St, Sydney, was

attended by at least 9,000 nurses and midwives, according to organisers. Many had travelled for several hours to take part, including a group from Manning Base Hospital in Taree, more than 300 kilometres north.

It was, by a substantial margin, the largest rally by NSW health workers since the mass strikes in early 2022 against the then Liberal-National state government.

The attendance expresses the mounting hostility among nurses and midwives to

the Labor government, which is seeking to cut real wages, even as working conditions in the public health system become increasingly dire. At the Sydney rally, striking nurses and midwives spoke with World Socialist Web Site reporters about the worsening crisis they confront in the state's hospitals.

The anger and frustration of nurses and midwives is part of a broader growth of animosity towards Labor.



# Biden delivers warmongering tirade at the United Nations



United States President Joe Biden addresses the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly, Tuesday, September 24, 2024, at UN headquarters. [AP Photo/Julia Demaree Nikhinson]

**World Socialist Web Site** Andre Damon

On Tuesday, US President Joe Biden delivered a warmongering rant at the United Nations General Assembly, demanding an escalation of war against Russia and Iran, and threatening China.

Just one day after Israel killed nearly 500 people in a brutal bombing campaign against Lebanon, and as Israeli bombs continued to level buildings in Lebanese towns and villages, Biden restated his unequivocal support for Israel's genocide in Gaza and the wider war throughout the Middle East.

Referring to the Iranian-backed group in Lebanon, Biden declared, "Hezbollah, unprovoked, joined the October 7 attack, launching rockets into Israel. Any country would have the right and responsibility to ensure that such an attack could never happen again."

The US president demanded a "stronger position to deal with the ongoing threat posed by Iran. We must deny oxygen to its terrorist proxies."

At the same time, US troops and the USS Abraham Lincoln aircraft carrier are on their way to deploy to the Middle East in support of Israel's offensive against Lebanon and ultimately Iran.

Biden was, if possible, even more aggressive in demanding an escalation of war with Russia. "When Russia invaded Ukraine, we could have stood by and merely protested," Biden said. Instead, "America stepped into the breach, providing massive security... assistance." As a result, "NATO is bigger, stronger, more united than ever before." He added, "we cannot let up... we will not let up on our support for Ukraine."

Driving Biden's point home, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, who has driven hundreds of thousands of young Ukrainian men to their deaths on behalf of the imperialist powers, declared, "This

war can't be calmed by talks. Action is needed."

"Russia can only be forced into peace," he said.

The UN General Assembly is the occasion for a major escalation of global war. In the coming days, Zelensky will hold high-level meetings with US officials over the expected announcement that the US and UK will enable Ukraine to use NATO weapons to attack targets deep inside of Russia.

The ramifications of such a decision, which could lead to nuclear war, are so great that they are reportedly producing divisions within the state. According to an article in the Washington Post, published Tuesday:

*There are splits within the administration: Even after Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin made clear his firm opposition to loosening the rules around ATACMS strikes, Secretary of State Antony Blinken indicated this month in a visit to Kyiv that he was open to the Ukrainian arguments and would ultimately bring them back to Biden for a broader discussion in Washington. That discussion is ongoing, officials said, with those inside the National Security Council trying to manage the differences between the Defense Department and the State Department.*

In his remarks before a UN Security Council Ministerial Meeting on Ukraine Monday, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken sought to link Russia, Iran, North Korea and China in a reboot of George W. Bush's statements about an "axis of evil" prior to the 2003 invasion of Iraq.

"As Tehran provides Putin with drones, ballistic missiles, and training, Russia is sharing technology with Iran on nuclear issues, as well as space information," Blinken said. "This as Iran continues to arm, to train, and to fund proxies in the Middle East to carry out terrorist attacks across the region and beyond."

This is said by a leading official of a government that has "armed, trained and funded" Israel as it carries out a genocide in Gaza and terrorist attacks in Lebanon, including the pager explosion attack last week.

Blinken added, "China, another permanent member of this council, is the top provider of machine tools, microelectronics, and other items that Russia is using to rebuild, to restock, to ramp up its war machine."

This from a leading official of a government that worked systematically to provoke the Russian invasion of Ukraine by providing the far-right regime in Kiev, installed in a 2014 coup, with billions in weaponry, and that has systematically escalated the conflict over the past two-and-a-half years.

With the US presidential election just two months away, any serious discussion of these wars is excluded from the campaign. Both the Democratic candidate Kamala Harris and Republican Donald Trump are unequivocal backers of the Gaza genocide. And if Trump questions US involvement in Ukraine, it is only because he believes all of the US resources should be devoted to the conflict with China.

Amidst his warmongering, Biden

peppered his remarks at the UN with bland and rosy declarations about the path forward. He was, he stated, "more optimistic about the future than I've ever been since I was first elected to the United States Senate in 1972."

In fact, underlying the extreme recklessness of the imperialist powers, above all the United States, is an intensifying economic, social and political crisis.

Among the anxieties of the capitalist oligarchy is the fate of the US dollar. In an article published in the pro-US Chatham House think tank, David Lubin, the former head of Emerging Markets Economics at Citigroup, declared that "US dollar dominance is both a cause and a consequence of US power."

Lubin continued, "While dollar dominance is uncomfortable for many countries, US military power... will preserve its status as the top currency for the foreseeable future."

With these words, the former Citigroup banker reveals the Arcanum Imperii, or secret of the empire: That the millions of people who have died in wars waged by the United States all over the world, from Korea to Vietnam, to Iraq and Afghanistan, and now Russia, Gaza, and Libya, were sacrificed to secure the hegemony of US imperialism.

In other words, global domination through military violence is the last, best desperate hope of the American financial oligarchy to preserve its wealth and privileges. This military offensive will involve an intensified war on the working class, of which the catastrophic collapse in living standards under Biden will be just the prelude.

In his opening remarks to the General Assembly, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres warned, "our world is in a whirlwind... geopolitical divisions keep deepening. Wars rage with no clue how they will end, and nuclear posturing and new weapons cast a dark shadow. We are edging towards the unimaginable, a powder keg that risks engulfing the world."

Accurate as these warnings are, Guterres spoke as though the causes of this looming catastrophe were a natural disaster or an act of God, not the actions and statements of the American president and other imperialist leaders that spoke immediately after him.

It falls to the working class to advance its own solution to the deepening crisis. All over the world, workers are entering into struggle against the stagnation of their living standards as an ever-greater share of social resources are directed to war. Stopping the escalating bloodbath requires fusing the economic demands of the working class with the building of an anti-war movement, animated by the perspective of international socialism.