

NAMIBIA TODAY



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President Nangolo Mbumba



VP Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah



SG Sophia Shaningwa



Dr Charles Mubita



Dr Elijah Ngurare

'We are unbeatable,' says SWAPO

By Asser Ntinda

Senior SWAPO Party leaders have come out guns blazing, quashing uninformed and unsubstantiated predictions by well-known anti-SWAPO political activists that SWAPO will lose the upcoming Presidential and National Assembly

elections on November 27.

As Namibian voters prepare to participate in the upcoming elections, some so-called 'political analysts' are predicting a 'SWAPO downfall from power,' pegging their analyses on what has happened in South Africa and Botswana this year.

In May this year, South Africa held its elections where the ANC narrowly won the elections, but not with enough majority to form a government alone. The ANC was forced to form a coalition with the Democratic Alliance, DA, which ended the ANC's political dominance for

the first time since it took power in 1994.

Botswana held its elections this month, and the Botswana Democratic Party, BDP, suffered its worst electoral defeat and lost to the opposition Umbrella for

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Nkurenkuru says we are just too many to be defeated.

N\$550 million for water in Rundu

By Staff Reporter

The SWAPO Party government, through NamWater, is spending over N\$550 million on water projects in Rundu to meet the water supply demand of the town. This was revealed by SWAPO Party Vice President and Presidential Candidate, Cde Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah last Saturday on her campaign trail in the two Kavango

regions.

Rundu is one of the fastest growing towns in Namibia, with a population of over 131 000 residents in 2023, up from over 72 000 in 2011. Kavango East Region has a population of over 218 600 in 2023, up from over 136 800 in 2011.

Addressing a fully packed star rally in Rundu, Cde Nandi-Ndaitwah said

the money would be spent on the new Rundu Water Treatment Plant, Raw Water Abstraction and Conveyance System, Pump Stations and Pipelines, reservoirs and elevated tanks.

The project started in March this year, and it is expected to be completed in December next year. Once the treatment plant is completed, big pipelines will

be constructed to supply areas such as Kayengona, Mupini, and Masivi within a 100 km radius from Rundu.

The installation and commissioning of boreholes in the Kahemu Suburb, Nkongoro Water Pipeline, as well as the construction of new filtration plants

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



SWAPO supporters in Kavango East converged in Rundu in their thousands to welcome VP Cde Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah.

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Democratic Change, UDC. UDC is a coalition of three opposition parties. BDP had ruled Botswana since independence in 1966.

Various so-called political commentators are now using South Africa's and Botswana's cases to predict the downfall of SWAPO in the upcoming elections. On Tuesday this week, Peter Fabricius, a hitherto unknown "consultant" at the Institute for Security Studies, wrote an opinion piece that appeared in The Namibian newspaper on Tuesday, 12 November, which suggested that "SWAPO could be the next former liberation movement to lose its grip on power."

A week earlier, Henning Melber penned an opinion piece in Friday's The Namibian, November 8, headlined: 'Namibia's game-changing 2024 elections: Swapo may face defeat.' In the same edition, 'political scientist'

Rui Tiytende, well-known for his anti-SWAPO antics, penned another opinion piece laced with personal attacks on the integrity of SWAPO presidential candidate, Cde Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, while predicting the downfall of SWAPO. All of them used South Africa and Botswana as sources of their predictions.

Senior SWAPO leaders say such claims are laughable and way off the mark, as they do not relate in any way to what is happening on the ground. President Nangolo Mbumba, Vice President Nandi-Ndaitwah and SWAPO Secretary General, Cde Sophia Shaningwa, have rubbished such wild predictions at various fully packed SWAPO rallies.

SWAPO Politburo and Central Committee member, Dr. Charles Mubita, says SWAPO is in good and solid shape and, looking at what is happening on the ground and how well attended SWAPO rallies have been since the campaign started, there is nothing suggesting

that SWAPO will lose in the upcoming elections.

"These are pipedreams. Namibia has many political commentators who masquerade as political analysts. They have been accorded the title by the media, which should know better. Even very well-known anti-SWAPO Party political activists are regarded as political analysts," says Dr. Mubita.

"Their opinions are choreographed to cultivate a fertile ground for political chaos, violence, and instability after the elections. They do this by unleashing so-called analyses riddled with untruths, thumb-sucking projected election results that are not backed by any facts or evidence. Their opinions are designed to give false hope to the premature political parties in Namibia and subsequently incite violence, should the results not favour the opposition parties. Fortunately, a reality check is around the corner."

Dr. Mubita says political analysts, whom we do not have in Namibia, research and analyze governments, political ideas, policies, and political trends to help policymakers make informed decisions. "They provide expert analysis and background information. It is not a field for any Jim and Jack," says Dr. Mubita.

Another SWAPO Central Committee member echoes what Dr. Mubita says. He says none of the 20 political parties contesting against SWAPO has attracted any frightening crowd at their rallies to predict that SWAPO may lose the elections.

"There is absolutely none. When and where will such shock surprises come from? When will their supporters come out of their hiding holes to support their parties? How can a political party predict it will win when its rallies are always empty? Why are their supporters ashamed to be seen at their parties' rallies when they are 'sure' they will win?," he asks.

"It's all rubbish. They will be shocked

on November 27. Some of these so-called political analysts are actually not political analysts at all. They are well-known sworn anti-SWAPO propagandists who repackage themselves as political analysts on the eve of every election to give hope where there is no hope. Their anti-SWAPO antics are well-known. In fact, it will surprise me if any of them predict a win for SWAPO. They will not do that because it is not in line with their dressing code. It's all about regime change."

Firebrand former SWAPO Party Youth League Secretary, Dr. Elijah Ngurare, says SWAPO has been down this slippery slope of political abracadabra where political witch-doctors predict the future. He says they merely cast stones in the air and return with unrestrained excitement of what they have seen in the imaginary crystal balls of the future.

"This time around, we hear them say the wind has predicted the downfall of SWAPO. One would have thought that political commentators are usually accomplished academics who work with empirical data and not egos or emotions," says Dr. Ngurare.

"Their only data in the wind is South Africa and Botswana elections outcome. Why are political analysts hellbent on predicting the demise of SWAPO on this basis? Could it be that there are misplaced emotions of hate praying for the wind to produce what could nurture their wishful prayers? Let's return to earth, dear political analysts.

"Constituency by constituency in Namibia, which political party can point to achievements in terms of infrastructure development since independence? Which political party has experience and a track record of governance?

"Which political party has structures from section to nation levels? Which political party is holding more and fully packed campaign rallies or activities more than the SWAPO Party? Which opposition

party's presidential candidate has traveled the whole 14 regions in preparation for the Election Manifesto? In this election campaign, which presidential candidate is addressing fully packed 14 star rallies across the country? Which political party is fielding a female candidate for the presidential elections? What is the finding on this in the just ended elections in South Africa and Botswana? Were their presidential candidates female? Or is this variable not an important data? Since when do numbers not matter in politics?"

Dr. Ngurare has acknowledged that the SWAPO Party has gone through many phases over the past 34 years, but it has always bounced back with valuable lessons. It has gone back to the people and sought the mandate of governance. It has sought renewal entrenched in the undertaking of unity. The unity in diversity, which recognizes that what is at stake, is Namibia and its people.

"The candidacy of Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah is one such renewal and commitment to unity. She is the magnet that draws SWAPO Party supporters and peace-loving Namibians to vote for SWAPO Party and its Presidential candidate on November 27," says Ngurare.

Dr. Ngurare says Cde Nandi-Ndaitwah is chosen by the SWAPO Party on the basis of her track record as a freedom fighter during the liberation struggle, an accomplished stateswoman in government and SWAPO Party.

"Her leadership in society and unmatched experience over the years speak for themselves. The political analysts in their heart of hearts see this wave too. They acknowledge it silently, but the wind tells them to believe abracadabra for the sake of it. Let's be realistic that come 27 November, the reality will be a landslide victory for the SWAPO Party and its Presidential candidate, Cde Nandi-Ndaitwah."



Nkurenkuru in Kavango West was all blue, red and green as VP Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah appealed to them to vote for SWAPO and its Presidential Candidate.

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for river abstraction for Kayengona and Shamvura water supply projects have also been completed.

Cde Nandi-Ndaitwah said the SWAPO Party's government had embarked on various development programmes throughout the country since independence. These programmes targeted sectors such as water, education, health, rural electrification, road infrastructures, and agriculture.

At independence, only a fraction of young people could access quality education. Today, Namibia has a literacy rate of 90 percent, one of the highest in Africa.

"As a result, 98 children out of every 100 have access to quality education. This is a triumph for our nation, a result of investment in education. The road ahead is to improve the quality of our education through a conducive learning and teaching environment for the learners and teachers, as it can be seen in our Manifesto," said Cde Nandi-Ndaitwah.

Kavango East boasts 181 educational facilities, 36 combined schools, 125 primary schools, 11 secondary schools, and seven vocational centers. There are also several early child development centers and pre-primary schools, some of which are run by individuals.

Through the implementation of the SWAPO Party Manifesto, Cde Nandi-Ndaitwah said the integration of pre-primary education into the country's schooling systems would be accelerated. New schools would be built, while old ones would continue to be upgraded to meet rising demands due to population growth.

On healthcare, Kavango East boasts 40 health facilities, 36 clinics, and three hospitals. Cde Nandi-Ndaitwah said she was aware of the non-availability of essential medicine in public health facilities and gave the assurance that this issue was being addressed urgently. The procurement process would be holistically reviewed.

On agriculture, Cde Nandi-Ndaitwah said Kavango East Region stood out as one that had the potential to accelerate the country's agricultural production in terms of food security. There are three government green schemes projects at Shandikongoro, Ndonga Linena, and Uvungu-Vhungu. While production had gone down over the years, Cde Nandi-Ndaitwah said things had drastically improved as many of the produce were available along the roads.

As part of value addition, Cde Nandi-Ndaitwah said the government would set up processing centers to create markets for such agriculture products. Earlier this month, Cde Nandi-Ndaitwah opened an oil processing factory.

"Soon you will see in the mark "Shandi Sunflower Cooking Oil," said Cde Nandi-Ndaitwah. "All green schemes are destined to increase their produce next year."

Cde Nandi-Ndaitwah appealed to the voters to renew SWAPO's mandate to govern for the next five years to continue implementing its development agenda, which it formulated and implemented at independence.

"Let us remember that we are voting for the SWAPO Party for the National Assembly and its Presidential candidate, Yours Truly, Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah," remarked the VP.



Kavango East says let's meet on November 27. We will vote for SWAPO and NNN.



Zoom In



By: Asser Ntinda

The English say he laughs longer than he who laughs last. A man who thinks he knows everything has just stopped growing. Since the November 2022 ordinary congress, the now disgraced SWAPO member, Reinhold Nghihapavali Shipwikeneni, has repackaged himself into a constitutional expert, telling the SWAPO leadership how to "conduct" itself.

He has even gone to court to have his absurd demands met through court orders. He has issues with Cde Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah as SWAPO Party Presidential Candidate. He also has issues with SWAPO postponing its extraordinary congress to April next year. That court case is still on.

Last week, however, Shipwikeneni finally made it known on which side he stood as far as the upcoming Presidential and National Assembly Elections were concerned.

Shipwikeneni issued a press release last week, in which he "endorsed" Independent Patriot for Change, IPC, presidential candidate, Dr. Panduleni Itula. The press release and the endorsement that came with it did not surprise anybody. But it revealed architectural defects that made Itula whom he was in 2019.

Shipwikeneni sadly still remains stuck in those architectural defects, unable to extricate himself from the quarrels that nearly ruined SWAPO after the 2017 congress. He is thus either unable or unwilling to understand and appreciate the corrective measures put in place after the November 2022 ordinary congress to remedy the situation.

Says Shipwikeneni: "Having the privilege of working alongside Itula in SWAPO for several years, we can confidently affirm his dedication, leadership qualities, and capability to restore Namibia's dignity, achieve justice, and bring about the governmental reforms necessary for radical economic transformation."

As usual, he never said who the "we" were in endorsing Itula. He just left it there, hanging. But then, one can only guess. Those "we" might be the very people who are financing Shipwikeneni's costly legal cases against SWAPO and its presidential candidate, Cde Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah.

If the purpose of his litigation was to restore "constitutional order" in SWAPO, which he alleged in court documents that the current SWAPO Party leadership had violated, how would that litigation be understood, now that he, as a SWAPO member that he claims he is, is endorsing Itula who was expelled from SWAPO for serious misconducts? We all thought he had someone in mind within SWAPO whom he wanted to be a presidential candidate.

All it tells us is that Shipwikeneni is sadly confused and remains trapped in the fog that ensued after the 2017 congress, which prompted Itula to challenge the late President Hage Geingob in the 2019 presidential elections. Itula did so as a SWAPO member but as an independent candidate, which, of course, was against the Constitution of SWAPO. He campaigned and went into those elections as a SWAPO member. The votes he garnered in 2019 were SWAPO votes, people who were aggrieved by what happened in 2017.

In 2024, Itula is no longer SWAPO. He is IPC. He is going into these elections as IPC. If Shipwikeneni believes that Itula will garner the same votes as he did in 2019, then he is plain wrong. The SWAPO members who supported him in 2019 when he was SWAPO as an independent candidate would certainly not support him in 2024 when he is IPC. Recognizing the difference is the beginning of wisdom.

Now that Shipwikeneni has publicly endorsed Itula and, by extension, IPC, to fight against SWAPO and its presidential candidate, he should as well summon the courage of his conviction and withdraw his court case he filed against SWAPO earlier this year. He can no longer argue in court that he is still a member of SWAPO when his public conducts are against the aims and objectives of the SWAPO Party.

As a SWAPO member, three of his constitutional obligations are to "act with dedication and commitment in the interests of the Party; to observe and comply with decisions, resolutions, and directives of the majority, even though he or she might have voted against them or held diverging opinions during the discussions," and most importantly, to be "sincere and honest."

By publicly endorsing Itula and IPC, Shipwikeneni has abdicated those obligations and responsibilities and can no longer speak or argue as a SWAPO member. In fact, one is only a member of SWAPO, subject to certain qualifications.

In court documents this year, SWAPO Secretary General, Cde Sophia Shaningwa, branded Shipwikeneni as an abusive litigant not worthy of the SWAPO membership. "He is definitely not a bona fide member. He is a political renegade and has, for a prolonged period of time and on a continuous basis, been involved in a series of acts subversive of the interests of the SWAPO Party. He therefore does not subscribe to the ideals, values, and objectives of the SWAPO Party.

"Shipwikeneni is a destructive, divisive, and mischievous character. He politically thrives on propagating lies and misinformation on or about the Party's leadership. He naively and cynically believes that an insult-based public discourse is part of the constitutionally protected fundamental freedom of expression. In fact, he is a muckraking politician with a misguided obsession with searching out dirt against prominent leaders of the Party.

"Therefore, individual membership in SWAPO is open to every qualifying Namibian but only to those who accept the aims and objectives of the Party and who are not members of any other political party, and those who do not support organizations or movements with aims and objects contrary to those of SWAPO. The behaviour of members must, therefore, be in accordance and conformity with the spirit and values stated in the Party's Constitution. Genuine grievances must be raised in accordance with the Party's procedures and in a peaceful, cordial, and respectful manner. Shipwikeneni does not act in accordance with these core values and requirements of the Party."

Cde Shaningwa couldn't have said it better. Good riddance, if Shipwikeneni leaves on his own accord before he is pushed. He can't stick around something he is fighting against.

'Sweet victory is ours'

By Asser Ntinda

SWAPO Party Presidential candidate, Cde Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, is busy rounding up her political campaign for the highest office in the land.

So far, so good. Everything is going according to plan. She is in charge of the ball, dribbling and dabbling her 15 presidential opponents like the best of Brazilian soccer players, keeping control of the ball while focusing on the ultimate trophy, to win the Presidency with ease. Yes, 15 men against one woman. They all feel inadequate in her presence and on the ball. She will squeeze them dry, come November 27.

The past two years have been the busiest in her political career. Shortly after the November 2022 ordinary congress, where she was re-elected SWAPO Party Vice President, which automatically made her the Party's presidential candidate in the upcoming elections, she went on a countrywide tour to introduce herself to the nation and at the same time, inform SWAPO members and the nation at large about the decisions and corrective measures taken at that congress to address setbacks the Party suffered in the 2019 Presidential and National Assembly elections where SWAPO lost the two-thirds majority it had enjoyed since 1994.

Beaming with confidence and thrilled with the overwhelming support she has so far received throughout the country over the past two years, an upbeat Netumbo, as many people prefer to call her affectionately, managed to display a broad smile as she arrived in Nkurenkuru, Kavango West, last Sunday. She had just addressed a fully packed rally in Rundu,

Kavango East, the previous day.

Netumbo is the "what you see is what you get" type of a politician. She diligently does her work exceptionally well. The results of her work speak for her. And she moves on. She has been given many labels. Some of her presidential opponents have even changed her age, so she looks older than she actually is. None of these labels, offensive and insulting as they are, has destructed her from focusing on the main goal - to win the male-dominated presidential race in a dignified manner.

"As we have been traveling through the length and breadth of our beautiful country, I have been reminded of one thing, that the SWAPO Party is the people and the people are SWAPO," she said as she delved into her speech in Nkurenkuru.

"I have witnessed this myself. The overwhelming support that the SWAPO Party has received is a testament that the people of Namibia have faith in the Party of their liberators."

Kavango West boasts one of the country's flourishing tourism sectors, being blessed with the Mangetti National Park and other natural tourist attractions. There are also well established community-based programmes in Kavango West.

There are 179 educational facilities in the region, which include 39 combined schools and 133 primary schools. Kavango West is among the best five performing regions in both grades 11 and 12 national examinations. Three more new schools were established in Nkurenkuru over the past few years.

The region's green schemes are also doing well, though production was low a few years ago. The expansion of the

millet plant at Katwitwi settlement by the Agricultural Marketing Trading Agency, AMTA, has enabled Kavango West to supply maize meals to the Office of the Prime Minister for drought relief programme this year.

Cde Nandi-Ndaitwah said the government would continue to put more emphasis on green schemes to enhance national food security. New feed lots and abattoirs would also be set up to support the development of value addition, value chains, and the creation of markets for emerging farmers, especially in the communal areas.

Kavango West also boasts 401 boreholes that provide safe drinking water. Out of that number, 27 boreholes were drilled and installed in crocodile prone areas on all the constituencies along the Kavango River.

Two traditional wells have been modernized at Sharukwe in Ncuncuni and Tjohwa in Mpungu constituencies. Three earth dams are currently under construction at Murere, Ndombe za Matava both in Tondoro and Gava in Mpungu constituencies.

Cde Nandi-Ndaitwah said more resources would be spent on accelerating the access to potable water in rural communities. This would be done through excavating, expanding, and rehabilitating more earth dams and developing boreholes in constituencies where they were needed most.

"That shall help reduce the level of human/animal accidents with people being killed or injured by crocodiles when accessing water through the Kavango River," said Cde Nandi-Ndaitwah.

The SWAPO Party Presidential candidate said rural electrification would remain a key priority for the SWAPO Party led government. Kavango West was allocated N\$18 million for the electrification of some schools in the current financial year. Several peri-urban and rural areas will also receive electricity soon.

Cde Nandi-Ndaitwah said the focus would also be on other sources of energy supplies. She said renewable energy might take center stage as a source of promoting energy efficiency to drive economic growth and reduce environmental impact.

Kavango West has also not been left out when it comes to road infrastructures. According to the regional road network of 2022, the SWAPO Party led government has covered a distance of 1291.5 km in Kavango West.

Kavango West boasts two health district hospitals, Ncamagoro and Nkurenkuru, six health centers, and 22 clinics.

Cde Nandi-Ndaitwah said the government was committed to ensuring an equitable society for all, striving for a Namibia where its people did not need to travel long distances to receive the most basic services.

"Effective service delivery must be our guiding principle as we move towards our set goals and objectives as stipulated in our Manifesto," she said.

"I know by now you have already made your right decision, and that right decision is to vote for the SWAPO Party for the National Assembly and its Presidential candidate, Yours Truly, Netumbo Ndemupelila Nandi-Ndaitwah."

'We don't just talk, we walk the talk,' Kahorongo

By Uaueza Kanguatjivi

Golden Planet Award winner Urip Kahorongo came up with a forum called Namibia sustainability forum to foster innovations and share learning in order to leverage partnerships that address Namibia's unique environmental and social practice and address environmental sustainability in business practices.

The Golden Planet Award is awarded annually by Astrid Arens, (founder DIPESH) and The Radio Group to individuals, companies, and organisations. The winners of the award stand out for actively living up to the idea of sustainability.

Following her Social Hero Award, Kahorongo who is also a Namibia social entrepreneur recently, founded the B2B Sustainable Business Forum Namibia (SBFN), under the theme "Working

Together to Future-Proof the Namibian Business Landscape."

The event moderated by Jeanette Washington was attended by Climate Fund Manager Mercia Geises, Founder of Ahava Business and Lifestyle Consultancy and Artificial Intelligence, Dr Joyce Phiri, Corporate Governance Law Expert Kauruumbua Koujo.

Co-founders, Software developers and CEO's of a Namibian tech company, (Yeni AI) Vitalis Haupindi Lotto Nanghonda were also among those present at the launch.

Kahorongo, a passionate advocate for social justice, sustainability, and empowerment, emphasised the collective nature of the achievement. "This recognition underscores the commitment to sustainability, social justice, and the pursuit of equality. It reaffirms my belief

in a vision of inclusivity, compassion, and collaboration," she said.

Her journey started out humbly. "This award is not merely a personal accolade; it represents the tireless efforts of countless individuals who are working to bring about meaningful change within their communities," she stated.

The award, Kahorongo says, does not only further awaken her sustainability passion but continues her groundbreaking work in Namibian business and sustainability. She recently founded the B2B Sustainable Business Forum Namibia (SBFN), an innovative initiative aimed at transforming sustainability goals into practical, actionable results within the Namibian business sector.

SBFN is a forward-thinking platform dedicated to promoting sustainable business practices, with the aim of

empowering Namibian businesses to thrive in the future.

According to Kahorongo, SBFN serves as a space for knowledge-sharing, networking, and collaboration among various sectors of the Namibian economy.

In an interview following her award, Kahorongo stressed her lifelong dedication to community and environmental stewardship, stating that her efforts are rooted in the values imparted by her parents.

The award, Kahorongo shared, represents not only her individual achievements but also those of unsung heroes who strive to make a positive impact.

Kahorongo says the B2B organisation has introduced several initiatives focused on sustainability and social equity, aligning

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with a "care principle" that emphasises community commitment, affirmation of positive impact, and relevance in every sphere.

Kahorongo said the organisation had provided support for 10 students, helping them pursue their academic dreams. "Education is a foundational pillar for us," Kahorongo noted.

Beyond financial support, the organisation has actively engaged with schools by delivering motivational talks. "Inspiring students to aim high aligns with our principles," Kahorongo added, emphasizing the company's dedication to empowering the next generation.

Stressing the importance of a community-first approach, Kauta-Kahorongo said, "We propagate this thing on the three E's: environmental awareness, social equity, and relevance."

She also shared her vision of advancing education in Namibia, advocating for a "blended curriculum" incorporating AI teachers to improve student outcomes. "Why can't we address this teacher-student ratio with AI teachers?" she questioned, highlighting successful pilot programs that saw notable improvement in student performance.

In the future, Kahorongo says the organisation plans to launch the B2B

Sustainable Business Forum to foster collaboration in education, climate action, and digital innovation.

"We don't just talk; we walk the talk. We own and execute our plan," she said.

Kahorongo also revealed her appreciation for the coordinators of the event, the Voice Aid Association – D.I.P.E.S.H. – Radio Group, as well as her partners, including Sell fast Real Estates Auction, the Patka Family Trust, and SBFN's competitive team, whose collaboration has been crucial in advancing her mission.

She says it is her organisation's goal of setting an example for other African nations to follow in balancing environmental and social responsibilities. In addition to this, seasoned lawyer and businessman Koujo, who is also a passionate advocate for sustainable development and community advancement, has become a key figure in Namibia's legal and economic landscape, contributing to both national and international conversations on governance, environmental protection, and human rights.

Koujo shared his journey into sustainability, which he says was shaped by his studies in environmental law during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"My consciousness for sustainability actually started through my international studies, where I was fortunate to study at

Wuhan University during COVID-19," he said.

"As I researched bilateral investment treaties, I began questioning why we don't include standalone sustainability clauses and corporate responsibility.

"Why not have an environmental protection clause? It would encourage responsible investment, especially in industries like mining and fisheries.

"I often wonder, are we really practicing sustainability in this country? Or are we thinking short-term and ignoring long-term impact?" he asked.

The European Union, EU, Koujo says, has been a champion of promoting sustainability. "As a member of the Law Reform and Development Commission, I see the value in benchmarking against such practices to improve our own."

Haupindi, who introduced his team's ambitious project, focused on learning scalability. Over the past 36 months, Haupindi says, the team of two has worked on creating a platform designed to enhance public school education by leveraging the skills of experienced teachers.

"We've been working on this for the past 36 months, to try and solve the problem of learning scaling in public schools.

"The idea was to leave the learning strategies at different schools, empowering teachers who are more experienced and

can teach better," Haupindi said.

"Our goal was to create a platform where teachers can share strategies and connect with other schools, essentially enabling knowledge transfer.

"Experienced teachers have so much to offer, and if we make it easier for them to share, it can raise the overall quality of education.

"By building this platform, we're focusing on empowering educators to improve student outcomes across diverse learning environments," he added.

In addition, board member of the Richard George Foundation Dr. Joyce Phiri, stated "Businesses have a crucial role in addressing global challenges."

Phiri stressed technology's power in sustainability, noting, "AI and machine learning can reduce waste and improve resource management," and block chain helps "track products for ethical practices."

Phiri urged a shift to a circular economy—"reducing waste and prioritising recycling"—and highlighted Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) metrics as key for investors.

Stressing legal and ethical awareness in tech use for a sustainable future Phiri said "ESG is now essential for evaluating business beyond profits."

Make Khomas rally a success



By Kristian Ngendina Auene

As the SWAPO Party gears up for its final Star Rally on November 24, 2024, Khomas Region stands poised to be the focal point of this significant event. The Party's success in these upcoming elections hinges on effective strategies that mobilize support and ensure a well - executed rally, drawing substantial attention both nationally and

internationally.

Khomas Region, home to the capital city of Windhoek, represents a microcosm of Namibia's diverse electorate. Given its central location, demographic vibrancy, and political significance, the Khomas Region is crucial to SWAPO's objectives. This final rally should be well attended to ensure visibility. The residents of the Khomas Region must come out in their thousands to ensure a resounding success.

This show of strength will not only demonstrate grassroots support but also enhance visibility and engagement with voters.

Here are the strategic recommendations for the technical team to make this rally a success.

Engage speakers and activists. Curate a lineup of influential speakers, including party leaders, local influencers, and community representatives to share messages of hope and progress. Integrate cultural performance that reflect Namibian heritage to foster a sense of

belonging. Create space for the youth to engage directly with the Party Candidate and leadership, to foster dialogue and concerns.

Host media events leading up to the rally to build momentum and share the Party's vision.

Ensure live broadcast and extensive social media engagement during the rally to maximize each and participation.

Invite respected international observers to enhance transparency and credibility. Their presence signifies the Party's openness to scrutiny and helps build trust with voters.

After the rally, facilitate discussions between the Think Tank and observers to share their insights and recommendations, promoting accountability and continuous improvement.

Virtual participation is essential. Leverage digital platforms for those who cannot attend in person to enable a wider audience to engage with the rally and participate in discussions online.

Encourage social media advocacy. Equip supporters with digital tools to share their experiences and promote the rally, expanding outreach across various platforms.

Create platforms to host post-tally follow-ups. Establish channels for attendees to provide feedback on the rally experience to help refine future strategies and address issues raised.

Initiate follow-up branches, warm-up campaigns after the rallies to keep the momentum going. Focus on voter education as the elections approach.

In conclusion, the impending final star rally is not just an event, it is an important moment for the SWAPO Party and a vital opportunity to reinforce its commitment to the citizens of Namibia.

All eyes will be on Khomas as it becomes the stage for a rally that could shape the future of the Swapo Party and Namibia in general.



Western sponsored propaganda exposed

By Benard Haufiku

Well, first of all it's unbelievable and perhaps already setting the tone as to the objective of this interview actually is all about.

I mean, the whole setup is apparently about "Swapo Party and its Presidential candidate, NNN potentially losing an elections" but all the clips being displayed are only about an opposition grouping in Namibia

This says it all!

Secondly, and perhaps because of factors such as senility and being far detached from the reality on the ground, the "analyst" is miles away from the reality on the ground. Even clandestinely adding five more years to the actual age of Cde. Netumbo and embarrassingly proclaiming that she is 78 years old.

The Vice President of Namibia and the Swapo Party is 72 years old, Sir! And not 78 as it is being falsely claimed here.

Thirdly, so many people, even so-called political analysts, appear to have consistently and continuously missed the point when attempting to analyze the 2019 national and presidential elections in Namibia.

And, that is that the decline in Swapo Party votes in 2019 compared to, for instance, the 2014 results was mainly because of two reasons. This is my personal opinion.

First, a good number of Swapo Party members increasingly became disgruntled/unhappy with the direction the party was heading into. I do not have to elaborate on this now.

The Swapo Party has since changed leadership, and with that comes visible change in direction.

Such change has created new vigour and enthusiasm among rank and file Swapo Party members, and this is audible, visible,

and palpable everywhere in Namibia.

Secondly, and closely linked to the above, is the fact that the person being branished here with his 30 % of votes in the 2019 general election gained these high percentages for two reasons.

One, because a good number of Swapo Party members were unhappy with the direction the party and the government were taking.

Consequently, and frankly speaking, quite punitively, many Swapo Party members cast protest votes, either by spoiling their votes or putting the cross for the opposition party such as the one being displayed in this clip.

Hence, they must, therefore, forget the 16 parliamentary seats they got in 2019.

For the presidential votes, many bona fide and card carrying Swapo Party members must have voted for the independent candidate who (by the way) was still a Swapo Party member then.

Hence, the 30% votes for the then independent candidate.

This is what many, including the seemingly one-sided political analysts, missed.

Newly-formed political groupings in Namibia and their leaders seem to have missed this point, too.

And this is not only a political miscalculation or a mathematical error but a fatal mistake on their part.

Political toddlers and self-proclaimed Namibian messiahs are now sailing on a false narrative that the electoral situation of 2019 will either repeat itself or improve in their favour.

The former independent candidate now rides on the false belief that he will now attain more votes than when he was a Swapo Party member as an independent candidate.

This is certainly a false belief bordering

on delusional disorder or hallucinations.

Reading the current situation on the ground in all 14 regions and not from well-ventilated offices in skyscrapers somewhere out of Namibia, all indications are pointing to an overwhelming victory for the Swapo Party and its candidate Cde. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah.

My own grossly conservative estimates are that the Swapo Party will win decisively and votes for opposition groupings will decline significantly, come November 27.

This is what we are reading on the ground!

Lastly, let me briefly refer to the shallow comparisons between the Namibian, Botswana, and South Africa electoral outcomes.

The ANC could not gain the required votes (50+1) to constitute a government simply (and this is my view) because of the way they handled their former charismatic and immediate former President Jacob Zuma, not because of opposition parties' sudden popularity. Let us get this right in our mind, please.

Former President, Jacob Zuma was jailed and suffered untold humiliation while his own comrades were watching or maybe supporting his mental torturer.

This happened at a time not so far from national elections in South Africa.

This is the man who once commanded Mkhonto we Ziswe, ANC's military wing!

A man who put his own life on the line for freedom and justice in his homeland.

A popular and charismatic leader who is so popular among grassroots ANC members in South Africa as we have all seen or opted to ignore.

A man hailing from a powerful Zulu Nation and Zulu royal clan that is the majority tribe in SA.

As much as no one supports what happened under his government, and

many of us condemned what happened to South Africa's economy during his reign (N'kandla saga, Guptas, Eskom...) and many others.

The fact is that President Zuma remains popular among poor Africans in South Africa.

And when he, at the dawn of elections in South Africa, formed his MK party, hardly anyone took him seriously. Even less so, his former comrades in the ANC.

MK shocked everyone when the first election results in South Africa were announced.

And only then, I believe, the ANC realized, they could have managed their former Commander-in Chief differently. But it was already too late.

Botswana's scenario also completely differs from Namibia in many ways.

Former President Mokgweetsi Masisi and his predecessor, Botswana's once iron man with a very strong military background, Ian Khama, were not on talking terms.

President Khama had to leave his homeland and lived in South Africa for a while because of the sour relationship with his successor.

But he, Khama, has followers and supporters in Botswana.

Additionally, many opposition parties in Botswana formed an umbrella/ coalition party, unlike opposition groups in Namibia.

There is then no similarity whatsoever between what happened in both South Africa and Botswana and what is likely to be the outcome of elections in Namibia. Please mark my words.

If anything, the outcome of elections in Namibia will be the complete opposite of what happened in both Botswana and South Africa.

This is my take!

Nam-China strengthen ties via Human Capital Development

By *Uaueza Kanguatjivi*

Namibia and the People's Republic of China have reaffirmed their commitment to enhancing human capital development, an area crucial to Namibia's socio-economic progress. The Chinese Embassy hosted its first reception for participants of the 2024 China-Namibia training cooperation programs on November 7, the event brought together Namibians who have benefited from various Chinese training programs.

Highlighting the growing partnership between the two nations, focusing on training and human capital development as well as strengthening Namibia's workforce and supporting its economic transformation goals in areas like agriculture, oil and gas, and green hydrogen development.

The event was attended by Ambassador Zhao Weiping, Counsellor for Economic and Commercial Affairs, Wei Jinming, representing Executive the Director of the National Planning Commission (NPC) Dr. Michael Nokokure Humavindu, was NPC representative Ned Sibeya, alongside with government officials and media representative.

Representing the trainees, Taleni Mabakeng from the National Planning Commission, Frans Mupurua from the Ministry of Health & Social Services, and Principal of Augustineum Secondary School, Rudolf Matengu,

Ambassador Zhao voiced gratitude to Director Humavindu and the NPC for their role in facilitating the programs, emphasizing their significance in fostering skills needed for Namibia's industrial and economic goals.

"The NPC has played a critical role

in the success of this important joint endeavour," Zhao said.

Reflecting on China's own Human capital development is extremely important for all the countries Zhao said, "In China, we have put enormous resources into fostering an efficient public sector and a skilled labour force. We have established Party and Administration Schools at all levels, and by 2020 we have built the world's largest vocational education system in China.

"With over 11,500 vocational schools producing skilled technicians annually, China is eager to share its development expertise with other Global South countries, including Namibia," Zhao said.

As the largest developing country in the world, Ambassador Zhao says China is keen to contribute to the human capital development in other Global South countries.

"China has so far undertaken 17000 human resources development and cooperation programs for 186 countries and international organizations."

These Zhao says have resulted in the training of over 470,000 professionals across more than 100 disciplines within 23 fields, "including public administration, national development, diplomatic service, poverty alleviation, health-care, education, scientific research, culture, sports and transportation."

Making reference to the recent Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) summit Ambassador Zhao said, "Chinese President Xi Jinping outlined additional measures to bolster Africa's human capital development. These initiatives include the Future of Africa-Vocational Education Cooperation Plan and the establishment of engineering academies and Luban

Workshops. China also pledged 60,000 training opportunities for African youth and women over the next three years."

Recognizing Namibia's demand for a skilled workforce, Zhao emphasized the need to expand China-Namibia training programs, which currently include multilateral and bilateral training sessions.

Ambassador Zhao proposed increasing bilateral programs specifically tailored to Namibia's needs, with sessions held both in China and Namibia.

"We should increase programs to be held in Namibia so that more people can enjoy the benefit," Zhao stated, adding that discussions to finalize a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on vocational training between the two countries are ongoing.

The Chinese ambassador reaffirmed China's commitment to Namibia, referencing President Xi's vision of a shared future for humanity and the Belt and Road Initiative. "We will always be there with you wherever you need our help."

Delivering remarks on behalf of the Executive Director of the National Planning Commission (NPC), Sibeya highlighted the significance of Namibia's partnership with China, rooted in a 2007 bilateral agreement.

"Tonight's gathering testifies to the strength of our bilateral relationship and our shared commitment to realising Namibia's vision for sustainable development and prosperity," Sibeya noted.

According to Sibeya, the Chinese government's training programs have provided over 200 Namibians with crucial skills this year alone.

These programs cover various fields,

from infrastructure development to digital technology, aligning with national goals in Vision 2030, the Fifth National Development Plan (NDP5), and the Harambee Prosperity Plan II.

"The skills acquired by our trainees will benefit not only our people but the broader nation, contributing directly to Namibia's economic transformation," he said.

These lessons, Sibeya says, are invaluable as Namibia strengthens its capacity to manage complex projects, drive economic growth, and achieve sustainable development.

Beyond skill acquisition, Sibeya said that these exchanges foster deeper bonds of trust and collaboration between Namibia and China, building a foundation of mutual understanding and shared values.

"Our cooperation extends beyond technical knowledge; it strengthens the bonds of friendship and collaboration that serve our mutual interests," he added.

Reflecting on the experience of Namibian participants, Sibeya encouraged them to continue sharing their newfound knowledge with colleagues and implementing positive changes in their workplaces.

The NPC, as the coordinating agency, has received positive reports on the impact of these training programs, showing that they are catalysts for progress within the Namibian workforce.

In closing, Sibeya stated the NPC's gratitude to the Chinese Embassy and underscored Namibia's commitment to furthering this bilateral cooperation. "Together, we can ensure that the shared values of development, resilience, and progress uplift all of our people," he said.



SWAPO Party's Kunene Regional Coordinator, Cde Julius Kaujova says his teams are in the field at Epembe Branch, deep in the mountainous forests of the great Kunene Region, mobilizing the people to ensure a resounding victory for SWAPO and its Presidential candidate, Cde Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, on November 27.





Smoke billows following Israeli airstrikes in Dahiyeh, Beirut, Lebanon, Wednesday, Nov. 13, 2024 [AP Photo/Hassan Ammar]

Israel bombs Beirut and Lebanon-Syria border, as UN declares basic foodstuffs “barely exist” in Gaza

World Socialist Web Site Jordan Shilton

Israel carried out four major air strikes on the southern suburbs of the Lebanese capital Beirut yesterday, as well as a series of strikes on bridges and other infrastructure on the Lebanon-Syria border. Coming as the Zionist regime continues to starve Gaza and the US military once again struck targets in Yemen, the attacks show that there is no let-up in the drive by Washington’s attack dog to redraw the map of the Middle East.

The four strikes targeted the suburbs of Haret Hreik and Burj al-Barajneh. The strikes flattened six residential buildings, but no official casualty figures were initially reported. After at least 78 people were killed in Israel Defence Forces (IDF) raids on Tuesday, the official death toll in Lebanon since October 8 stands at 3,365, with 14,344 wounded.

Defence Minister Israel Katz, who replaced Yoav Gallant after his firing by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu last week, vowed to continue to escalate the conflict in Lebanon. In a visit to the IDF’s Northern Command, Katz declared, “We will not make any ceasefire, we will not take our foot off the gas, and we will not allow any arrangement that does not include the achievement of the war’s goals.”

These include the disarming of Hezbollah, the pushing of its forces north of the Litani River, and the return of residents to towns and villages on Israel’s northern border, he added. The Defence Minister asserted that Israel would retain “the right to enforce” any ceasefire deal, i.e., the “right” to launch attacks inside Lebanon at will after a ceasefire is concluded.

On the ground, the IDF reported six casualties following a gun battle with Hezbollah in southern Lebanon. The clash reportedly occurred as Israeli forces sought to advance to the second line of villages inside the border.

Syrian state news agency SANA reported that the air strikes near the border caused “significant damage” to infrastructure.

According to the IDF, the attacks were aimed at smuggling routes used by Iran to transfer weaponry to Hezbollah. They come less than three weeks after Israel’s air strikes on Iran on October 26, which targeted military sites and were described by the World Socialist Web Site as a “dress rehearsal” for a region-wide war.

US Central Command also announced Wednesday that it struck numerous sites in Yemen on Saturday and Sunday, reportedly destroying weapons supplied to the Houthis by Iran.

American imperialism has backed Israel’s genocide against the Palestinians and subsequent war on Lebanon to the hilt, seeing them as components of its preparations for a region-wide war targeting Iran. Washington is pursuing the goal of consolidating its hegemony over the oil-rich region as part of a renewed redivision of the world, which encompasses the war on Russia in Ukraine and advanced preparations for war with China in the Asia-Pacific.

If Katz’s pledge to intensify the war in Lebanon is fulfilled, the likelihood that the conflict will spread throughout the energy-rich region will become ever greater. President-elect Donald Trump, who drastically escalated tensions with Tehran during his first term in office by abrogating the nuclear accord with Iran, has nominated Marco Rubio, a vocal anti-Iran hawk, as his secretary of state. At a campaign rally last month, Trump urged Israel to strike Iran’s nuclear sites at a time when the bourgeois-clerical regime in Tehran was warning that such a decision would lead to all-out war. In the end, Netanyahu chose the more limited, but nonetheless provocative, attack on October 26 that struck military sites.

Mike Huckabee, a staunch defender of the Zionist state’s expansionist plans, is set to be Trump’s ambassador to Israel. The second Trump administration is expected to give Netanyahu a free hand to expand settlements in the West Bank and intensify the genocide in Gaza. As Huckabee put it in 2017, “There is no such thing as a West Bank. It’s Judea and Samaria. There’s

no such thing as a settlement. They’re communities, they’re neighbourhoods, they’re cities. There’s no such thing as an occupation.”

Israel continued its bombardment of Gaza Wednesday, where 26 people were reported killed in a series of strikes throughout the day. One targeted the al-Mawasi district in the southwest, an ostensible “safe zone” where many displaced people are sheltering. Another strike on the Maghazi refugee camp killed five.

The UN’s World Food Programme noted on X that markets across the enclave are “in decay,” adding that basic staples “barely exist.” It stated, “Fresh foods, eggs and meat barely exist and the prices of any food available have reached record highs.” The UN’s aid coordination office OCHA added that all attempts to gain Israeli approval for the delivery of supplies to northern Gaza since the beginning of November have been rebuffed.

In early October, Netanyahu’s far-right regime adopted what is known as the “Generals’ Plan,” which calls for the denial of all food aid to northern Gaza and the treating of all civilians who remain as enemy combatants.

On Tuesday, the Biden administration defended Israel against criticism from aid organisations pointing to the abysmally low level of deliveries entering the enclave. Even though the Zionist regime is allowing just one-tenth of the 350 aid trucks into Gaza per day called for by the Biden administration last month, the State Department asserted Tuesday that Israel was not violating international humanitarian law by withholding food aid, and refused to place any restrictions on Washington’s massive weapons deliveries.

The UN Security Council held a briefing the same day on the threat of famine in northern Gaza. It was requested by Guyana and Switzerland following a November 8 alert from the Integrated Food Phase Classification (IPC) stating that there is “a strong likelihood that famine is imminent within areas of the northern Gaza Strip.”

An earlier October 17 snapshot from the agency revealed that the entirety of Gaza is at risk of famine between November and April 2025 “under a worst-case scenario that has a reasonable chance of occurring.”

“We are witnessing acts reminiscent of the gravest international crimes,” Joyce Msuya, interim head of the UN’s Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, told Tuesday’s Security Council meeting. She described Israel’s ongoing siege of northern Gaza as “an intensified, extreme, and accelerated version of the horrors of the past year.”

Head of the UN’s Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) Rein Paulsen told the Security Council that the number of people facing “catastrophic food insecurity,” the highest classification on the IPC’s food insecurity scale, would treble from the current level of 133,000 in the coming months. “Men, women, boys and girls are effectively starving as the conflict rages, with humanitarian organizations blocked from delivering assistance to those in need,” Paulsen continued. “By the time famine has been declared, people are already dying of hunger, with irreversible consequences that can last generations.”

An FAO release on the briefing noted that local food production has “collapsed”: “nearly 70 percent of croplands—which contributed up to one-third of daily consumption—have been destroyed; over 70 percent of olive trees and orchards have been burned to the ground; agricultural infrastructure has been decimated; and 95 percent of cattle and more than half of sheep and goat herds, have died.”

None of these horrors move the imperialist barbarians represented in the Security Council. They are dead set on continuing with their support for Israel’s genocide and vicious attacks on anyone who protests it at home. The only social force capable of putting an end to this savagery is the international working class, mobilised on the basis of a socialist and internationalist programme for the abolition of capitalism, the root cause of genocide and imperialist war.