



**STATEMENT BY HER EXCELLENCY
COMRADE DR. NETUMBO NANDI-
NDAITWAH,
VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE SWAPO PARTY
AND OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA ON THE
OCCASION OF THE**

**OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF SWAPO PARTY
ELECTION CAMPAIGN
AND
THE ELECTION MANIFESTO 2025-2030**

**SAM NUJOMA STADIUM
WINDHOEK**

SATURDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER 2024

**Your Excellency, Comrade Dr. Nangolo Mbumba,
President of the Republic of Namibia,
Comrade Sophia Shaningwa, Secretary General of the
SWAPO Party,
Comrade Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila, Prime Minister
of the Republic of Namibia,
Comrade Uahekua Herunga, Deputy Secretary General of
SWAPO Party,
Members of the Central Committee and Political Bureau
of the SWAPO Party,
SWAPO Party Regional Coordinators,
Leaders of the SWAPO Party Elders' Council, SWAPO
Party Women's Council, SWAPO Party Youth League,
Former Plan Combatants Association and National Union
of Namibian Workers,
Members of Parliament,
SWAPO Party members, supporters and sympathizers,
Our Pastor, Reverend Schalk Pienaar, and other spiritual
leaders present,
Members of the Media,
Ladies and Gentlemen.**

**The long-awaited day has come! A day in which the
SWAPO Party and Namibian citizens will negotiate and**

finalize the social contract, to be sealed on the 27th November 2024, the Election Day. The 27th of November is the day slated for all registered voters to go to the polls and elect the next Namibian President and the Party that will manage the developmental agenda of the country for the next 5 years, for the good of all Namibian citizens. That social contract is the SWAPO Party Manifesto for 2024 Elections, that will be implemented as from 21st March 2025 to 2030.

I am therefore honoured on behalf of the SWAPO Party leadership and the entire rank and file to address all SWAPO Party members, supporters and sympathizers and of course all Namibians who are listening from all regions of Namibia and beyond, to introduce to the nation the SWAPO Party Election Manifesto 2025-2030.

As a very essential part of our campaign, the manifesto outlines the vision and ideals we have for our motherland. It serves as an important benchmark for analysing the performance of a government and ensuring its accountability to the electorate with regards to the commitments made in the document.

Today, the SWAPO Party returns to the people of Namibia in order to give a summary account of the past years and to outline its vision for the next 5 years. We are also here to once again ask the people of Namibia to trust us and renew our mandate to deliver more.

The 2025 – 2030 Election Manifesto is premised on the SWAPO Party Political Program of 1989 that committed to socio-politically and economically empower all Namibians, irrespective of race, gender and class. The Election Manifesto is our blueprint that will speak on behalf of the SWAPO Party and its Presidential Candidate. It will inform Namibians, why they should continue to trust and vote for SWAPO Party and its Presidential Candidate, yours truly Ndemupelila Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah.

Our commitment towards the nation's developmental agenda has been demonstrated throughout the SWAPO Party's many success stories.

As a young democracy, the SWAPO Party has successfully:

- **Ensured a peaceful constitutional democracy** by holding regular free and fair elections supported by the implementation of smooth leadership transitions in the SWAPO Party and the government.
- **Ensured a stable economy** by reducing the poverty incidences and the proportion of the population living below the poverty line from 69.3% in 1990 to 17.4% in 2023.
- **Ensured high calibre infrastructure** by more than doubling the investment in road, port, energy generation and supply, telecommunications network and water supply infrastructure since 1990.
- **Ensured a better standard of living** by investing heavily in education and health, ranking in the Top 5 in sub-Saharan Africa on human capital development expenditures.
- **Ensured improved equality** by reducing the income inequality as measured by the Gini coefficient reduced from 0.70 in the 1990's to 0.546 in 2023.

- **Ensured transparent and efficient governance** by establishing key state-owned enterprises (SOE's) that are mandated to deliver services to the Namibian nation independently from the Government Ministries.
- **Ensured Youth and Women Empowerment** by increasing women representation in National Assembly from 8.3% in 1990 to 50% in 2024. Youth participation in leadership across various sectors has also been increased. We are seeing a youthful crop of people heading for Parliament, alongside committed, experienced and mature people to provide mentorship, direction to enable generational leadership transition. We have delivered, therefore, *'Trust Us to Deliver More'*.

The theme for this year's election campaign is *"UNITY IN DIVERSITY: NATURAL RESOURCE BENEFICIATION AND YOUTH EMPOWERMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT."*

This theme covers all our intentions as a Party and by implementing policies that are speaking to this theme, we believe that our national developmental goals which may still be outstanding, will be achieved.

I do not want to and I cannot, lead a divided nation. UNITY IN DIVERSITY: highlights the power we have as a collective despite our different cultures, origins, races and economic status. It is therefore, our shared responsibility to ensure that we remain united as Namibians.

Our Founding President, Father of the Namibian Nation and Leader of our Revolution have told us that, and I quote *"A PEOPLE UNITED STRIVING TO ACHIEVE COMMON GOOD FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY WILL ALWAYS EMERGE VICTORIOUS,"* Let us work together fellow Namibians and build our nation together as one.

NATURAL RESOURCE BENEFICIATION: highlights the desire by the SWAPO Party to ensure that our natural resources are able to benefit all Namibians through value addition. This will allow us to create more jobs for

Namibians and contribute significantly to our economic growth, sustainable development and to bring about prosperity for all.

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT: highlights our plan to equip the youth with opportunities and tools necessary to pursue their dreams, develop their country and serve their nation. Talking of youth empowerment, in the last 10 years, the government allocated N\$14 billion to assist students through NSFAP. This is a milestone, no doubt about it, we however commit to allocate a sizable budget of over N\$85 billion over the next 5 years to priority projects which will create mass employment opportunities for unemployed Namibians. Equally, we commit to develop sports infrastructures to create over 29 000 jobs over the next 5 years.

Dear Comrades and Fellow Namibians,

CREATIVE INDUSTRY is one of the high potential industries to contribute significantly to the social and economic development of the country. We therefore commit to expand on skills development and

enhancement for vocational training facilities, for this industry to occupy its rightful position in development.

Therefore, in pursuing the Namibian dream, we commit to pay special attention to Education, Arts, Culture and Creative industries by injecting N\$26.3 billion over the next 5 years to create 32 000 jobs.

The SWAPO Party commitments for 2025-2030 includes possibilities for ECONOMIC GROWTH: FOR A PROSPEROUS AND INDUSTRIALIZED ECONOMY where SWAPO Party led government will promote industrialisation activities in targeted sectors including but not limited to agro-processing, fish processing, steel manufacturing and metal fabrication, chemicals production, jewellery production, automotive production with the aim of growing the economy and creating employment for all to address economic exclusion and inequality.

Meanwhile, the mining sector will not be an exception as our Election Manifesto is instructive about Natural Resources Beneficiation through value addition and the protection our natural resources.

NAMIBIA TOURISM INDUSTRY has contributed immensely to our GDP over the years. SWAPO Party Election Manifesto put forth commitments to increase the participation of rural communities in tourism activities through eco-tourism and the promotion and preserving of cultural heritages, historic sites and cultural villages as new tourism products to spur job creation and economic diversification.

Dear Comrades,

FOOD SECURITY is the backbone of every nation. As such, transformation of the agricultural sector must be the foundation of Namibia's economy and serve as a tool to unlocking many job opportunities and increase local agricultural produce. Key to agricultural growth is water supply, especially to small scale rural farmers. Therefore, over the past years rural water supply has made significant progress. Over the next 5 years acceleration of the implementation of the water supply programmes will see increased water distributions to rural areas. For both agricultural, domestic and industrial use we commit

to enhancing water supply and security by prioritising the construction of the desalination plant.

In SPORTS, SWAPO Party commits to expedite the financing of the various sport programmes and sport infrastructure to create productive and recreational activities for the youth and stimulate economic growth in the sector. We commit to start the Sport Awards Policy to incentivise performing athletes.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING is a key enabler to all successes and therefore we commit all our energies and resources to invest in quality education. Starting with early childhood development, we will establish the full integration of Pre-Primary (PP) and Early Childhood Development centres (ECD) into the mainstream education system. Upgrading of educational infrastructure and installing digital tools as we are preparing our young ones for the new order of technology-based education.

As earlier stated, we will improve support for tertiary student funding by reviewing the operational framework of the Namibia Student Financial Assistance Fund to

enhancing timeous service delivery and increase the funding intake for postgraduates who may be willing to up-skill and re-skill. A key focus will be to promote research and innovation equipping our youth with the required skills and opportunities for entrepreneurship through research and innovation.

The expansion of the pre-vocational subject at school level and review of the TVET system to provide trades at appropriate levels and establish Technikons for the purpose of articulation from VTCs.

QUALITY HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE, we pledge to improve our national living standards by ensuring widespread access to quality health and social services and ensure access to adequate healthcare facilities through the expansion of public health infrastructure and improve the level of service in public health facilities. Our government has invested a lot in health over the years and we are not yet done until every Namibian has suitable access to a healthcare facility. We will urgently speed up the enactment and implementation of the universal health coverage (UHC) law.

DECENT LIVING: LAND, HOUSING AND SANITATION,

land delivery and adequate housing has been a challenge in Namibia since before independence. We acknowledge this challenge however, we have made positive progress in most towns, through mass housing projects, land servicing and land redistribution. We pledge to address housing challenges, improve sanitation and promote sustainable urban development for a healthy, safe and more liveable environment. With the implementation of the 2nd Land Conference Resolutions, we are going to address more issues around the acceleration of land allocation and land acquisition, through clear land reform policies.

No doubt service delivery is the key for all our success; hence the Manifesto has put great emphasis on enhanced quality service delivery which will not be compromised. We must serve our people with commitment dedication and the highest integrity. Thus, the Manifesto is clear on corruption, "*Zero Tolerance!*" It is a scourge on our nation that should not be allowed in our country and must be fought and resisted against by all Namibians. We must be a nation guided by our

principle's ideals and accountability. Anyone interested with public service and responsibility, should now know now it will not be business as usual.

To make sure that this manifesto is fully implemented come 2030, an Implementation Action Plan (AP) will be developed in tandem with a Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (M&EP) to be put in place and enforced.

Comrades and Fellow Namibians,

I will not finish unpacking this manifesto, I therefore, invite you all to study it at length and understand why SWAPO Party should be given another mandate.

All SWAPO Party members should now use the manifesto as they engage in campaign conversations with the majorities. I have officially given you the ammunition to go and fight in this democratic process and victory shall be certain.

I further request you to ensure that all the messaging you will give is aligned to this manifesto, as we will be held accountable to the nation come 2030. Remember

this term will also conclude Our Vision 2030, thus calling us to account for it. Therefore, we must be resolute and united in all we do for our beloved country, Namibia the Land of the Brave.

It is now my distinct honour and privilege to declare the SWAPO Party Election Campaign and the SWAPO Party Election Manifest officially launched.

SWAPO! UNITED!

SWAPO! VICTORIOUS!

NOW! HARD WORK!

I Thank you for your attention.