



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

64[™] ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE SWAPO PARTY

WINDHOEK, NAMIBIA

- 1. Today, the 19th of April 2024, marks 64 years since SWAPO Party was founded in 1960. It is our plan to celebrate the anniversary of our Party in a befitting manner on this day. However, due to the passing of our heroine, Cde Ida Jimmy whom we will take to her final resting place tomorrow, may her soul rest in perfect peace, the celebration could not be held as planned. The official celebration will now be held in Mariental, Hardap region on a date to be announced soon.
- 2. SWAPO Party was founded by the struggling masses of Namibian workers in resistance to colonial oppression and exploitation. Therefore, SWAPO Party has its roots in the common struggle of the Namibian people. It is shaped by the unwavering desire of the brave sons and daughters of our motherland, in their quest for true and genuine freedom and self-determination. From the onset, our Party has always aimed at uniting all Namibians irrespective of gender, race or ethnic origin into a vibrant democratic society and will continue to do so.
- 3. Having attained the goal of liberating our country, SWAPO Party introduced a Policy of National Reconciliation to ensure that all Namibians have space for social and economic development. We then proceeded to establish and nourish a true democracy, that will ensure peace, stability and good governance. Truly, we have brought our nation from oppressed, segregated people into a united, harmonious and peaceful society.

- 4. SWAPO Party forged ahead to embark upon the struggle for economic independence, by crafting and implementing programmes aimed at redressing past colonial injustices, so as to ensure socio-economic development for the Namibian people. Despite some challenges, to date SWAPO Party has proven to be the vanguard of our society and our achievements in different sectors of our society and economy, are worth to be celebrated.
- 5. Indeed, today we pay homage to the gallant sons and daughters of our motherland, who took a bold decision to form this Party and stood resolutely in defense of our country and our rights to freely determine and chart our own destiny.
- 6. Today, we salute the unwavering spirit of the Namibian revolutionaries who paved the way for our national liberation struggle which SWAPO Party launched and logically concluded on 21 March 1990, a day when Comrade, Dr Sam Shafiishuna Nujoma, our Founding President, Father of the Namibian Nation and Leader of our Revolution, declared that "Namibia is free for ever".
- 7. We salute the unwavering spirit of our forebearers such as Iipumbu Ya Tshilongo, Mandume Ya Ndemufayo, Nehale Iya Mpingana, Hosea Kutako, Kaptein Hendrick Witbooi, Jakob Marengo, Kakurukaze Mungunda, just to mention but a few.

- 8. In the same vein, we pay homage to contemporary revolutionaries, alive and departed, such as, Sam Nujoma, Hifikepunye Pohamba, Brenden Simbwaye, Tobias Hainyeko, Peter Nanyemba, Getrud Kandanga, Peter Mweshinge, Moses Garoeb, Andimba Toivo ya Toivo, Dimo Hamaambo, Marco Hausiku, Hage G, Geingob and many others.
- 9. Many have been maimed, others have paid the ultimate price during the long and bitter struggle for our freedom and Independence, we salute them all.
- 10. Comrades, having established a flourishing democracy and laid a strong foundation for a just society, SWAPO Party is determined to continue with implementation of policies aimed at socio-economic transformation of our society.
- 11. SWAPO Party is focused to ensure sustainable utilization of our natural resources, and work on local content to create more economic opportunities for all Namibians and expand the social safety nets. SWAPO Party is focused and determined to ensure youth employment and youth empowerment, being one of the best ways to fight poverty.
- 12. Just as we won the struggle for political freedom, SWAPO Party shall win the struggle for economic independence. With the new industries emerging, such as oil and gas and green hydrogen, reinforcing the traditional industries in our country, we have all the tools to look after our nation and to make Namibia the best place for all her people.

- 13. Unity in diversity is a cornerstone for SWAPO Party through which sustainable development can be realized. Therefore, let us remain united in order to achieve a resounding victory in the upcoming Presidential and National Assembly Elections, to enable us continue with our national development agenda uninterrupted.
- 14. I therefore, call upon SWAPO Party Members, Supporters and Sympathizers to remain in contact with our people to explain to them why they should continue to trust their hopes in future on SWAPO Party. In fact, with the Electoral Commission of Namibia having launched the election calendar, the campaign has started and we must all be hard at work. Victory is ours.
- 15. Indeed, we are humbled by the continued confidence, of the Namibian people on SWAPO Party, an honor and trust we have never and shall never take for granted. But to remain of service to our people, the sovereignty.
- 16. In celebrating 64 years of a robust and durable foundation, I wish our Party SWAPO, its leadership and rank and file, supporters and sympathizers a joyous Happy Birthday celebrations!

HAPPY 64th BIRTHDAY SWAPO PARTY!