

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with great pleasure and a deep sense of responsibility that I stand before you today as the Petroleum Commissioner of Namibia to address the official opening ceremony of the Namibia Local Content Conference. This conference marks a significant milestone in our collective journey towards sustainable development and inclusive growth in Namibia's energy sector.

The theme of this year's conference, "Empowering Namibia's Energy Ambitions through Local Content," resonates deeply with the core mission of the Petroleum Directorate. At the heart of our work lies the recognition that the responsible development of Namibia's petroleum resources must be guided by principles of inclusivity, sustainability, and shared prosperity.

Local content development is not merely an aspiration; it is a fundamental imperative for realizing the full potential of our petroleum sector and ensuring that its benefits are felt by all Namibians. It is about creating opportunities for local businesses to participate meaningfully in the petroleum value chain, from exploration and production to downstream activities.

As the regulatory authority responsible for overseeing the development of Namibia's petroleum resources, the Petroleum Directorate is deeply committed to promoting local content participation. We are working tirelessly to create an enabling environment that empowers Namibian companies to compete on a level playing field and contribute to the growth and diversification of our economy.

One of our key priorities is to build local capacity and expertise in the petroleum sector. Through targeted capacity-building initiatives, training programs, and skills development initiatives, we are equipping Namibian companies and individuals with the knowledge, skills, and resources they need to thrive in the petroleum industry.

Additionally, we are actively engaged in promoting collaboration and partnerships between government, industry, and civil society to address the challenges and seize the opportunities facing our petroleum sector. By working together, we can harness the collective expertise, resources, and ingenuity of all stakeholders to drive positive change and innovation in our industry.

The NLCC provides us with a unique opportunity to come together as a community and chart the course for the future of local content development in Namibia's energy sector. It is a platform for us to share insights, exchange ideas, and forge partnerships that will shape the trajectory of our industry for years to come.

As we gather here today, let us reaffirm our commitment to local content development and to building a more inclusive and sustainable energy sector in

Namibia. Let us use this conference as an opportunity to explore new avenues for collaboration, innovation, and growth that will benefit our nation and its people.

In closing, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the organizers of the NLCC for their tireless efforts in bringing us all together and for providing this valuable platform for dialogue and collaboration. I would also like to thank all the participants for their dedication and commitment to advancing local content development in Namibia's energy sector.

Together, let us work towards a brighter future for Namibia's energy sector, one that is built on the principles of sustainability, inclusivity, and shared prosperity.

Thank you.

Ms. Maggy Shino Petroleum Commissioner of Namibia