

REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA



**Statement by His Excellency Dr. Nangolo
Mbumba, President of the Republic of Namibia on
the occasion of the conferment of The Most
Ancient Order of Welwitchia Mirabilis**

AUGUST 3, 2024

STATE HOUSE

WINDHOEK

Check against delivery

- **His Excellency Dr Hifikepunye Pohamba, Second President of the Republic of Namibia and Madame Pohamba;**
- **Dear Madame Monica Geingos, children and the Geingob family Clan;**
- **Her Excellency Dr Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, Vice President of the Republic of Namibia and Lt. Gen. (Rtd.) Ndaitwah;**
- **Right Honourable Dr Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila, Prime Minister and Mr. Amadhila;**
- **Honourable John Mutorwa, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Works and Transport and Madam Mutorwa;**
- **Honourable Prof. Peter Katjavivi, Speaker of the National Assembly;**
- **Honourable Lukas Sinimbo Muha, Chairperson of the National Council;**
- **His Lordship Peter Shivute, Chief Justice and Judge Shivute;**
- **Honourable Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Members of Parliament;**
- **Comrade Sophia Shaningwa, Secretary General of the SWAPO Party;**

- **Honourable Laura Mcleod-Katjirua, Governor of Khomas Region and other Governors Present;**
- **Her Excellency Jovelina A.A. Imperial e Costa, Dean of the Diplomatic Corps;**
- **Her Worship Cllr. Queen Kamati, Mayor of the City of Windhoek;**
- **Chief Gaob Immanuel Gaseb, Chairperson of the Council of Traditional Leaders;**
- **Dr. George Simataa, Secretary to Cabinet;**
- **Senior Government Officials;**
- **Service Chiefs;**
- **Members of the Media;**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen;**

1. **Today is indeed an epochal moment in my life. As I stand before this August audience, I am filled with a profound sense of humility and honour. I thank God Almighty for the abundance of blessings he has bestowed upon me, and I thank the people of Namibia for the trust and confidence they have placed in me as the Fourth President of this Republic.**
2. **Leaders are not born, they are created. They are forged in the furnace of life and molded by their**

experiences as they traverse the course of their destiny.

- 3. I would not be the person I am today without those people that have played an invaluable role in shaping my beliefs, thoughts and character as I navigated the course of my destiny. Many of those people are present here today, some are not, and sadly others have passed on. May their beautiful souls rest in eternal peace. But no matter where they are, they are the reason I am standing here today.**

- 4. It is therefore my privilege to acknowledge those family, friends, comrades and colleagues who have made this day possible. To my dear wife, you exemplify the verse from the book of Proverbs 31:10 which states that, "A truly good wife is the most precious treasure a man can find" I am therefore grateful that during my life journey, I was able to find the most precious treasure a man can find.**

- 5. I am indebted to my maternal grandparents who laid the foundation for my success. Their nurturing, discipline and guidance has allowed me to achieve success beyond my greatest expectations.**

- 6. Equally, I am profoundly grateful to my teachers, pastors and elders in Namibia and during exile days, who played a great role in my life to impart words of wisdom, morals and values that guided me on my life's journey. Through these interactions I learnt the precious mores of humility, respect for others, sharing what you have with those who are less fortunate, and simply just to be more caring human being.**

- 7. To my lovely children, grandchildren and to the entire Mbumba and Nangolo clans. You are all responsible for this day. Your love, compassion and support has made this day possible. Thank you for always being there for me.**

- 8. My great mentor and leader, His Excellency Comrade Hifikepunye Pohamba delivered a**

beautiful narration of my sojourn through life and mentioned some of the great men and women that played significant roles in guiding me to where I am today. Your Excellency, from the bottom of my heart, thank you.

9. Several SWAPO stalwarts and Liberation Struggle icons who played a role in my life have been mentioned. Of course, the famous legacy triumvirate consisting of the Founding Father of the Namibian Nation, and Leader of the Namibian Revolution, His Excellency Sam Shafiishuna Nujoma; the second President of Namibia, His Excellency Hifikepunye Pohamba and my late brother and third President of Namibia His Excellency Hage G Geingob, played a pivotal role in my life, both inside and outside of the political arena. I am deeply grateful to them all.

10. My profound appreciation goes to all SWAPO leaders, who have led our party with distinction in various capacities, since its inception, both alive and those who have passed on. Furthermore, I wish to thank all the SWAPO Party rank and file,

supporters, sympathizers and our Veterans of the Liberation Struggle for your unwavering patriotism, commitment and support.

11. Finally, as a President for all Namibians, I want to thank the great people of our beloved nation, the Land of the Brave, for the trust and confidence you have vested in me during my current tenure and in my various portfolios. Words cannot express fully the depth of my gratitude and emotions, however, I thank you all, wholeheartedly, for bestowing upon me this great honour of The Most Ancient Order of Welwitchia Mirabilis.

Thank You.