## **REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA**



## STATEMENT BY HIS EXCELLENCY DR. NANGOLO MBUMBA, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA AT THE GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY OF THE NAMBAZA LOGISTICS PARK AND THE BLUE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

7 MARCH 2025

WALVIS BAY

**ERONGO REGION** 

- Director of Ceremonies,
- Honourable Tom Alweendo, Minister of Mines and Energy;
- Honourable Dr. Iitah Kandjii Murangi, Minister of Higher Education, Technology and Innovation;
- Honourable Ministers and Deputy Ministers present;
- Honourable Neville Andre, Governor of Erongo Region and All Regional Governors present;
- Your Worship the Mayor of Walvis Bay, Councillor Trevino Forbes;
- Honourable Regional and Local Authority Councilors present;
- Mr. Andrew Kanime, Chief Executive Officer of Namibian Ports Authority (NAMPORT);
- Dr. Abisai Konstantinus, Chairperson of the Nambaza Logistics Park (NLP) (Pty) Ltd;
- Dr. Eino Mvula, Director of the Blue Institute of Technology (BIT) (Pty) Ltd;
- Members of the Diplomatic Corps;
- All our respected Religious, Traditional and Community leaders present;
- Captains of Industry;
- Distinguished Guests;
- Members of the Media;

- Members of the community,
- Distinguished Guests;

Good afternoon to you all,

- 1. It is an honour to join you today for the joint groundbreaking ceremony of the construction of Nambaza Logistics Park (NLP) and the Blue Institute of Technology (BIT). Today's event marks another significant milestone in Namibia's development journey, aligning with our national vision for sustainable growth, industrialisation, economic diversification and job creation.
- 2. The name 'Nambaza' is derived from the Oshiwambo word "Ombaza," meaning cowhide, a symbol of strength and quality valued in the Oshiwambo culture and many other African cultures.
- 3. Nambaza is a befitting name for the Logistics Park whose foundation we are laying today, in pursuit of providing a demand-driven logistical hub that will propel Namibia into the future of manufacturing, bulk breaking and exports.

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- 4. I am informed that, once completed, Nambaza Logistics Park will be a 150,000 square-metre industrial complex consisting of a truck port equipped with a fuel station and 250 parking bays. Additionally, it will make provision for accommodation, a healthcare facility and several amenities for users.
- Today's ground-breaking also includes the construction of the Blue Institute of Technology (BIT), which will support skills development, research, and employment creation.

Ladies and gentlemen,

6. This project has the potential to become a crucial pillar in our broader efforts to position Namibia as a logistics hub in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region. It represents our commitment to ensuring Namibia's preparedness for business growth envisaged from the establishment of new sectors such as green hydrogen and oil and gas among others. By creating economic infrastructures and industries while

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investing in quality education, we are timely preparing and positioning our youths to take part in the economic growth that will follow.

- 7. I, therefore, extend my gratitude to all the local, regional, and international partners and stakeholders for their collaboration and investment in these two projects. I also thank the entrepreneurs for their resolve to bring their business vision to life. Your dedication and commitment to realize this project and make it part of Namibia's economic progress is commendable.
- 8. I look forward to the implementation of this noble initiative and the lasting impact it will have on our country's economic development.
- 9. It is now my pleasure and honour to officially commence with the ground-breaking of the Nambaza Logistics Park and the Blue Institute of Technology.

## I thank you.

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