



**REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA
THE PRESIDENCY**

STATEMENT BY

**HER EXCELLENCY DR. NETUMBO NANDI-NDAITWAH,
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA,**

ON THE OCCASION OF THE

OFFICIAL OPENING OF GOREANGAB MALL,

KATUTURA, WINDHOEK

05 JUNE 2026

Programme Director;
Honourable Sam Shafiishuna Nujoma, Governor of the
Khomas Region;
His Worship, Councillor Sakkie Uunona, Mayor of the
City of Windhoek;
Leadership of Safland Property Group and Oryx
Properties;
Invited Guests;
Distinguished Community and Church Leaders;
Distinguished Residents of Goreangab and Katutura;
Members of the Media;
Ladies and Gentlemen.

We are here today to celebrate a well thought out idea to bring service closer to the people for economic advancement. Therefore, as I thank you for the invitation extended to me to officiate at this event. It is with great admiration that I would like to thank the inviters for having chosen Goreangab, Katutura to invest in.

The opening of the Goreangab Mall here in Katutura, a development that represents not only economic investment, but also hope, opportunity and confidence

in the future of our people and our country is highly commendable.

The history of Katutura is well known when many black Namibians were forcibly removed from their homes under apartheid segregation policies and relocated away from the city centre. To express their anger they said "Katutura," meaning we shall never settle here. That gave birth to the name Katutura as it is known today.

Yet, despite that unfortunate history and the hardships experienced the people of Katutura, that helped to build strong, resilient, vibrant and united communities have made this place to be what it is today.

Through perseverance, determination and an unbreakable spirit, the people of Katutura transformed adversity into a source of strength. Over the decades, Katutura has become a centre of culture, entrepreneurship and community pride.

Today, Katutura stands not as a symbol of division, but as a symbol of fortress, progress, dignity and the enduring strength of the Namibian people. The

population has grown and a lot of economic activities are taking place. Katutura is no longer isolated but a center of attraction and attention by the private sector and government respectively.

There was a time when development, investment and major commercial infrastructure were concentrated in the city center and elsewhere, while areas such as Katutura carried the social and economic burden of apartheid spatial planning.

The opening of this Mall therefore, carries significance far beyond bricks and mortar. It represents another step in reversing the legacy of exclusion and bringing opportunities closer to the people.

In many ways, this development tells a powerful story. A community that was once created through forced removal, is today attracting investment, creating jobs and shaping its own economic future. That is a story of resilience, progress and transformation. I'm reliably informed that during the construction phase, around 300 hundred jobs were created. Upon completion this mall

will generate close to 400 jobs. This is indeed a commendable achievement.

Today's occasion reflects what can be achieved when Government, local authorities and the private sector work together with a shared vision for national development and community empowerment.

For many residents, this mall is not simply a place to shop. It means spending less time and money as you will no longer have to travel long distances to access services, such as banking facilities, restaurants, pharmacies and other essential amenities.

For families and individuals, every dollar saved on transport matters. By bringing these services closer to where people live, this development improves convenience, reduces costs and contributes meaningfully to the quality of everyday life.

It is therefore, important to recognise the social value of developments such as this. For many young people growing up in this community, this facility will become a place where they can see first-hand the opportunities

that exist in the broader economy. It exposes them to businesses, services, careers and possibilities that can inspire ambition and broaden horizons.

That is to say, when one invests in communities, you are not only building infrastructure. You are investing in the aspirations of the current and future generations.

As we continue to build a more inclusive and prosperous Namibia, development continues to play an important role in advancing our national development goals.

I have agreed to officiate this mall as I see a great spinoff in terms of business. I would like to see new business opportunities to come out of the investment we are witnessing today. Among others, there will be food markets to operate from this mall, where they will get their fruits and vegetables.

To ensure sustainable development and to bring about prosperity in our country we identified agriculture as the number one priority of the eight developing programs. I am therefore, challenging the local entrepreneurs in

particular the youth and the food market operators to work together to ensure that moving forward, the fresh produce to be sold here must be locally produced. We must move from talking, to production.

I would like to see concrete offtake agreements concluded and signed between producers and buyers to create a reliable market for locally produced goods. I would also like to see the development of agricultural projects on the outskirts of Windhoek, including urban and peri-urban farming initiatives, to supply fresh produce directly to shopping centres and retailers, including the mall we are opening today. This will strengthen local value chains, create jobs, improve food security, and reduce our dependence on imported produce.

Producing closer to the market has many advantages. The health will improve by consuming fresh food as opposed to food carried long distances and losing value on the road, more people will be employed, adding to those working in the mall.

At the same time, the local economy will grow and harmony and solidarity will be the order of the day as the communities see the wider value of the initial investment.

I am encouraged by the collaboration between these two partners, namely Safland Property Group and Oryx Properties in bringing this vision to life. I wish to particularly commend these partners for their confidence in this community. Investing at this scale requires vision and courage which clearly demonstrates that through collaboration greater things can be achieved.

By choosing Goreangab and Katutura, they have demonstrated a clear understanding of the economic potential that exists within this community and the purchasing power of its residents.

Equally commendable is the thoughtful design and accessibility of the mall. The inclusion of free parking and an integrated taxi rank reflects an understanding of

the economic status and the transportation needs of the community.

As a nation, we must continue encouraging responsible investment that contributes to inclusive growth and community development.

Director of Ceremonies,

This Mall stands as a symbol of progress and transformation, here in Katutura. Therefore, as this facility officially opens its doors, I encourage residents of the area and visitors alike, to embrace it as a shared community asset.

Let us take pride in it, support the businesses that operate here, keep it clean, protect it from vandalism and criminal activity, and ensure that it remains a welcoming space for families, visitors and future generations.

May the Mall serve as a centre of economic activity, opportunity and community engagement for many years to come.

I now Declare the Goreangab Mall Officially Open!

I thank you.