



Office of the President



# Newsletter

Volume 4



Questions learners ask about Cabinet

# PRODUCTION TEAM

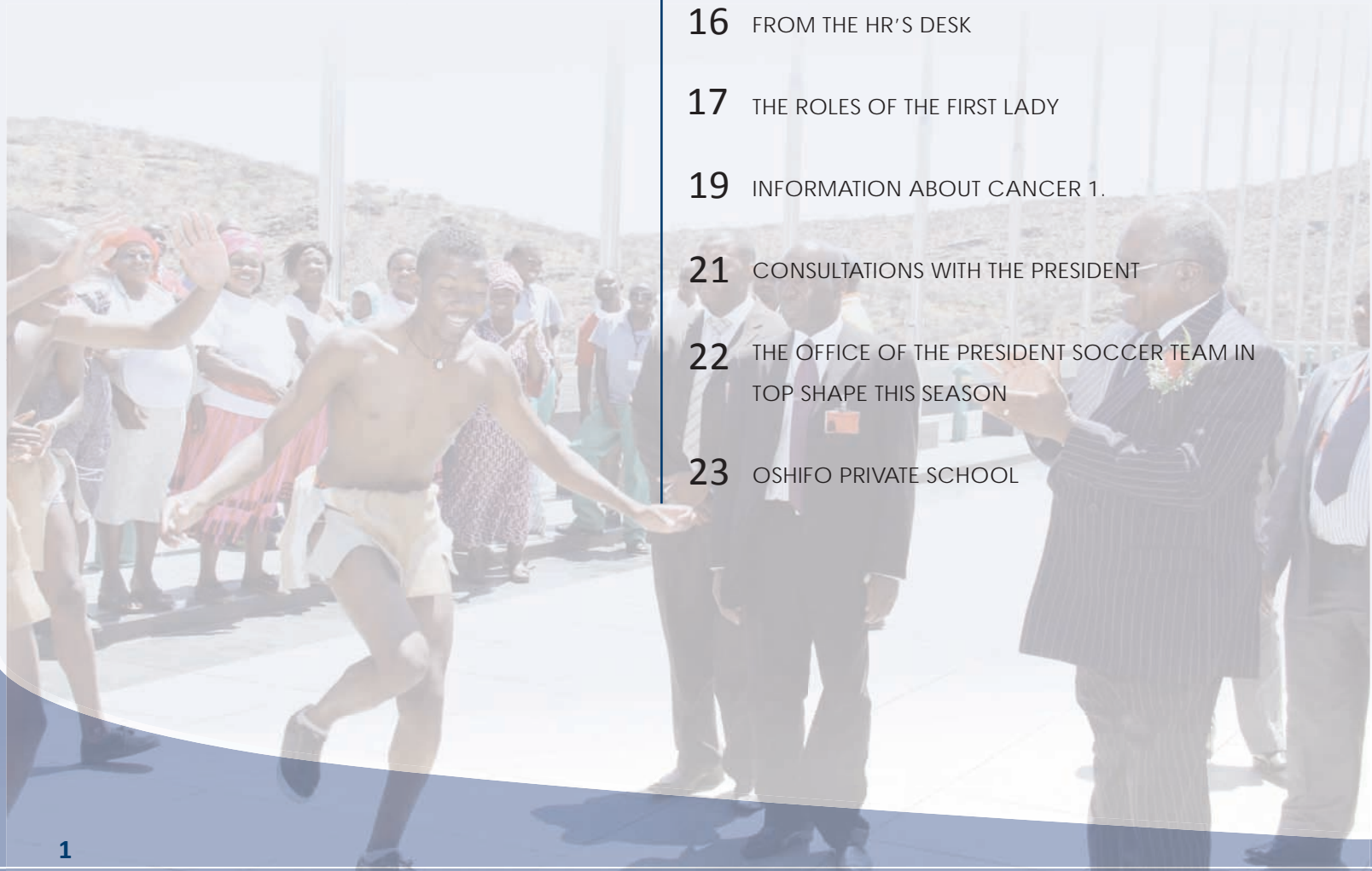
- 1. Staff members in the Department Executive Policy Services, Research and Media Liaison
- 2. The Office of the Permanent Secretary

**Contributors:** Office of the First Lady,  
Office of the Minister of Presidential Affairs  
Department Cabinet Secretariat, Policy analysis and  
Coordination, Security & Protocol,  
Directorate: Former President’s Support Services  
The Cancer Association of Namibia  
**Print:** Solitaire Press

**Design & Layout:** Image Wetu Promotions CC.  
Cell: 0813030033

# Table of Contents

- 2 EDITOR’S NOTES
- 3 CABINET AND ITS FUNCTIONS
- 7 THE OFFICE OF THE MINISTER OF PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS
- 8 ALIGNMENT OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN 3 TO NDP4
- 10 INTRODUCTION TO DIRECTORATE: FORMER PRESIDENT’S SUPPORT SERVICES
- 11 STATE AND OFFICIAL VISITS 2
- 13 KANANA HISHONO: THE POLITICAL CHRONOLOGY
- 15 INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY IN THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT REACHES GREATER HEIGHTS
- 16 FROM THE HR’S DESK
- 17 THE ROLES OF THE FIRST LADY
- 19 INFORMATION ABOUT CANCER 1.
- 21 CONSULTATIONS WITH THE PRESIDENT
- 22 THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT SOCCER TEAM IN TOP SHAPE THIS SEASON
- 23 OSHIFO PRIVATE SCHOOL





**Dear readers,**

it is time again that we excitedly present to you the fourth edition of the Office of the President Newsletter. This time around, what is interesting is that we have decided to give you a synopsis of the affairs of one of the legs of the three tiers of Government, the Cabinet of the Republic of Namibia, whose affairs are being run by the Department of Cabinet Secretariat, Policy Analysis and Coordination under the leadership of the Secretary to Cabinet in the Office of the President. Being a sensitive topic as it may, it is equally an insightful, knowledge enhancement and familiarization topic for our readers.

In addition to the article on Cabinet, the letters from our readers also compelled us to write about the activities of the Office of the Minister of Presidential Affairs, and his responsibilities. Other topics include; Alignment of the Office of the President's Strategic Plan to the Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF), and NDP4. We will also introduce to you the Directorate of the Former President's Support Services, in particular, the Office of the Founding President and Father of the Nation, Dr. Sam Shafiihuna Nujoma and the activities thereof.

Another area of importance that our readers should look forward to, is the role of the First Lady as the President of OAFLA and the roles of the First Lady in general. It has been a busy year for Madam Penelope Pohamba at the helm of OAFLA.

In our health column, we diverted from HIV to the introduction of Cancer related topics. We also present to you the final episode of the Official and State visits, (a continuation from the third edition). On IT and ICT we wrote about the advancement of ICT facilities at State House. We also had an interview with one of the Office of the Presidents longest serving advisors Mr. Kanana Hishono who retired from his duties. An interesting story indeed. A new page is also created for the consultations with the President. We end with our sports section reporting on soccer. In a nutshell these are the main topics covered in this newsletter and I once again invite our readers to send contributions on relevant topics to be published in this newsletter.

I hope you enjoy these articles, till next time.

The editor

## Editor's Note



**Netha P. Muyunda**  
**Deputy Director Media Liaison**

# CABINET AND ITS FUNCTIONS



*Centre: Chairman to Cabinet: H.E. Hifikepunye Pohamba, left Rt. Hon. Hage Geingob, Prime Minister and right: Mr. Frans Kapofi Secretary to Cabinet*

## 1. INTRODUCTION TO CABINET

Cabinet is the executive arm of the State responsible for governing the affairs of the nation. Therefore, Cabinet is the central and collective decision-making body, and forms Government. The decision-making process is based on the principles of accountability and transparency, the core pillars of good governance.

### a) Functions and duties of Cabinet

Cabinet deals with the administration and execution of the affairs of the State, Cabinet is collectively responsible for policy initiation, formulation, adoption and execution. Cabinet makes decisions on matters of public policy, devises and implement the Government political strategies (agenda).

### b) The importance of Cabinet decisions

Cabinet policy decisions are aimed at enhancing the socio-economic livelihood of the Namibian people; and improving service delivery through good governance.

*In addition, Article 40 of the Namibian Constitution explicitly states that the members of Cabinet shall have the following functions:*

- To direct, co-ordinate and supervise the activities of Ministries and Government Departments, including State Owned Enterprises.
- To review and advise the President and the National Assembly on the desirability and wisdom of any prevailing subordinate legislation, regulations or orders pertaining to such parastatal enterprises, regard being had the public interest;
- To initiate bills for submission to the National Assembly;
- To formulate, explain and assess for the National Assembly the budget of the State and its economic development plans and to report to the National Assembly thereon;
- To carry out other functions as are assigned to them by the law or are incidental to such assignment;
- To attend meetings of the National Assembly and to be available for the purpose of queries and debates pertaining to the legitimacy, wisdom, effectiveness and direction of Government policies;





- To issue notices, instructions and directives to facilitate the implementation and administration of the laws administered by the Executive, subject to the terms of the Namibian Constitution or any other law; and
- To remain vigilant and vigorous for the purposes of ensuring that scourges of apartheid, tribalism and colonialism do not again manifest themselves in any form in a free and independent Namibia and to protect and assist disadvantaged citizens of Namibia who have historically been victims of these pathologies, etc.

### c) Laws which are initiated by Cabinet

Cabinet initiates any law for adoption by Parliament. Such laws could be reformist in nature aimed at addressing the socio-economic imbalances of the past colonial dispensation, e.g. Affirmative Action Act or could be regulatory in nature, regulating a specific industry, e.g. Liquor Act. In addition, others could be aimed at addressing the welfare of the nation, e.g., State Pension Act, Veterans Act, while others could be aimed at enhancing prudent public financial management, e.g., State Finance Act. In the light of this, bills initiated by Cabinet address a wide spectrum of issues.

### d) The link between Cabinet and the two (2) other pillars of Government namely the Legislature and Judiciary in the law making process

Like many other democratic States, Namibia's democracy is based on the principle of checks and balances. In other words, there is separation of powers between each organ of the State, i.e. Cabinet (Executive), Legislature (Parliament) and the Judiciary (Supreme Court, High Court and Magistrates Courts). All in all, each organ of the State has an oversight on the other.

Bills initiated by Cabinet should be passed by Parliament before they can be enforced, and the Judiciary is responsible for the administration of justice based on the laws passed by Parliament.

The principle of the checks and balances tells us that, should Cabinet initiate a bill that discriminate against any segment of the Namibian society, such bill might not be passed into a law by Parliament, and should such a law see its day through Parliament, the Judiciary could declare such a law unconstitutional, and therefore, null and void.

Article 41 of the Namibian Constitution states that "All Ministers shall be accountable individually for the





administration of their own Ministries and collectively for the administration of the work of Cabinet, both to the President and to Parliament”.

#### **e) Who heads / chairs Cabinet meetings?**

Article 35 (5) of the Namibian Constitution states that “The President or, in his absence, the Prime Minister or other Minister shall be designated for this purpose by the President, shall preside over the meetings of Cabinet.” This simply tells us that the President leads and chairs Cabinet business.

#### **f) How does one become a member of Cabinet and what is the term of office?**

It is the prerogative of the President to appoint Cabinet members from amongst members of the National Assembly. Cabinet members serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority, i.e., the President.

#### **g) Who are the current Cabinet members?**

Cabinet consists of the President, the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister, and such other Ministers as the President may appoint from members of the National Assembly, including the members nominated by the President to the National Assembly within the provisions of Article 46 (1) (b) of the Namibian Constitution.

The Director-General of the National Planning Commission, the Director-General of the Namibia Central Intelligence Services attends Cabinet meetings all the times due to their nature of their work but Deputy Ministers attend Cabinet meetings by invitation or when delegated to do so by the Ministers. Currently, there are 27 Government Offices/Ministries/Agencies.

#### **h) How often does Cabinet meet?**

Cabinet meets bi-weekly on Tuesdays, at 9h00. Cabinet may also decide to meet on a Retreat to take stock on the affairs of the State. Cabinet may also hold Special Sessions to address a specific issue of national concern.

### i) The role of the Secretary to Cabinet?

The Secretary to Cabinet is responsible for the following functions, amongst others:

- To promote efficiency and effectiveness in the entire Public Service;
- To promote ethics and good governance as well as efficient and effective Public Service delivery;
- To head the Public Service;
- To coordinate Permanent Secretaries in the Performance of their functions;
- To advise the Prime Minister and President on matters pertaining to Cabinet and the Public Service; and
- To assist the Prime Minister on the supervision of Government functions and the execution of Government Policies
- National Events Preparatory Committee;

In addition, the Secretary to Cabinet chairs the following Committees:

- Government Negotiating Team on Wages and Salaries with recognized Trade Unions;
- National Emergency Management Committee;
- Namibia Institute of Public Administration (NIPAM) Governing Council;
- National Committee on State/Official Funerals; and
- Inter-Ministerial Joint Commission of Cooperation.



Mr. Frans Kapofi  
Secretary to Cabinet

## 2. What is Cabinet Secretariat?

**Cabinet Secretariat is the technical arm of Cabinet that serves Cabinet administratively with the following functions:**

- Provision of efficient, professional, technical and administrative support to Cabinet and the Standing Cabinet Committees, as well as the ad hoc Committees created by Cabinet from time to time;
- Monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of Cabinet decisions, especially key policy issues;
- Analysis of policy issues being addressed by Cabinet and the Standing Cabinet Committees, as well as the Ad Hoc Cabinet Committees;
- Coordination of inter-ministerial activities;
- Preparation for Cabinet Meetings;
- Scrutinizing and analyzing incoming Cabinet memoranda to ensure compliance with the Cabinet handbook;
- Servicing and recording of Cabinet proceedings;
- Management and safe-keeping of Cabinet documents/ records.





# *The Office of* **THE MINISTER OF PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS**



Hon. Dr. Albert Kawana (MP)  
**MINISTER OF PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS**



*For further enquiries about the Office of the Minister, kindly contact the Office of the Permanent Secretary. Details are provided at the back of this newsletter. ED.*

**From the correspondences from our readers and the visits of students to State House, it emerged that there are still many people out there who are not familiar with the roles and functions of the Minister of Presidential Affairs in the Office of the President. It is with this viewpoint that we compiled the following.**

The Office of the Minister of Presidential Affairs was created in 2005 shortly after His Excellency Dr Hifikepunye Pohamba took over as President of the Republic of Namibia. It is headed by Honourable Dr. Albert Kawana who is a Member of Parliament and also the Attorney General of the Republic of Namibia. Hon. Dr. Kawana has been the Minister of Presidential Affairs since its inception.

**The Mandate of the Minister of Presidential Affairs is to assist the President both technically and administratively so that the President can effectively exercise his roles and responsibilities as Head of State and Government.**

**Among the functions entrusted to the Minister of Presidential Affairs are to;**

- Present and defend the Annual budgets of the Office of the President, The National Planning Commission and the Auditor General in Parliament;
- Table Bills and Statutory reports emanating from the Office of the President in Parliament;
- Respond to Parliamentary questions related to the Office of the President;
- Coordinate Presidential speeches when delegated to do so;
- Meet with Presidential envoys when directed to do so by the President;
- Accompany His Excellency the President on local and international trips;
- Meet with the management cadres on a regular basis;
- Facilitate correspondence with other Offices/Ministries/Agencies, private sector and individuals on various issues of governmental affairs;
- At the request of the President, deliver speeches and meet with members of the public on his/her behalf;
- At the request of the President meet with learners and other institutions on his/her behalf;
- Provide constitutional and legal advice to the President in particular and Government in general in his capacity as Attorney-General.



# ALIGNMENT OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN TO MTEF AND NDP4

**"Working without a plan is a nightmare, but at the same time, planning without a clearly defined long term vision, one can get lost in the bush. So a vision without a plan remains a broad daylight dream."**

Mr. Samuel /Gôagoseb, Permanent Secretary in the Office of the President on the alignment of the office's Strategic Plan to the Medium Terms Expenditure Framework (MTEF) and the Fourth National Development Plan (NDP4)



Mr. Samuel /Gôagoseb  
PERMANENT SECRETARY

According to Mr. /Goagoseb, the integration of the Vision, Plan, and strategic objectives in a more logical sequence will lead to the cohesion effort of the staff members and the creation of a productive business culture. He said it was therefore important for the Office to align its Strategic Plan to NDP4 and MTEF because the NDP4 deals with new priorities. He said it is important to link the Office's Strategic Plan to NDP4 is the guiding tool to the national development agenda towards the attainment of the objectives of Vision 2030.

The alignment necessitated the change of the Vision and Mission of the Office of the President in order to serve as the inspirational tool to staff members and guide their day to day work plans.

The **vision** changed from **"To become the institution of excellence in public service delivery"** - *"The institution of excellence in our work and interactions"*.

To **realise the new vision** the mission statement was also changed since it is the vehicle needed to achieve the envisaged idea for the Office of the President. The Mission statement changed from; **"To provide effective and efficient support to the President and Cabinet in the management and implementation of the National Strategic development Agenda."** - *"To provide effective and efficient support services to the President and Cabinet in order to achieve the National Strategic development Agenda."*

Furthermore, the Permanent Secretary stressed that it cannot be business as usual in terms of business culture in the Office. To this effect, core values were relooked at and redefined as per the new inculcated value system of the Office because this is what guides the Office in whatever staff members do so that it remains an Institution of high integrity upholding the nation's character and constitutional mandates of His Excellency The President in support of his duties.



**"The integration of the vision, plan, and strategic objectives in a more logical sequence will lead to the cohesion of effort of staff members and the creation of a productive business culture."**



**“Change was also observed in the Strategic Objectives of all departments. All departmental strategic objectives have been aligned to NDP4, reduced and integrated to ensure that they are achievable and goal oriented.”**

This means that staff will be working toward the set strategic objectives of their departments which point to the overall vision of the Office.

This will assist in the attainment of the objectives of NDP4. It will also make an impact in terms of service delivery and a coordinated work environment”.

#### **Strategic objectives of the Office:**

- Strengthen provision of political, economic, legal and administrative support to the President;
- Improve responsiveness and information sharing with OMAs;
- Streamline and improve service delivery processes to Cabinet and its Standing Committees;
- Enhance positive image of the OP;
- Ensure safety and security of official documents and records;
- Monitor and evaluate implementation of Cabinet decisions by OMAs;
- Create an enabling environment and high performance culture

*On the question of how these set objectives will be achieved*, he pointed out that mechanisms are already in place. Targets and measures have been set for each objective which will serve as monitoring tools for organisational and individual performance.

Each individual will be assessed according to his/her performance based on the set objectives. The PS further stressed that good performance will be rewarded with incentives such as promotions, while in future there is going to be a civil servants rewarding system which is currently being formulated by the Office of the Prime Minister.

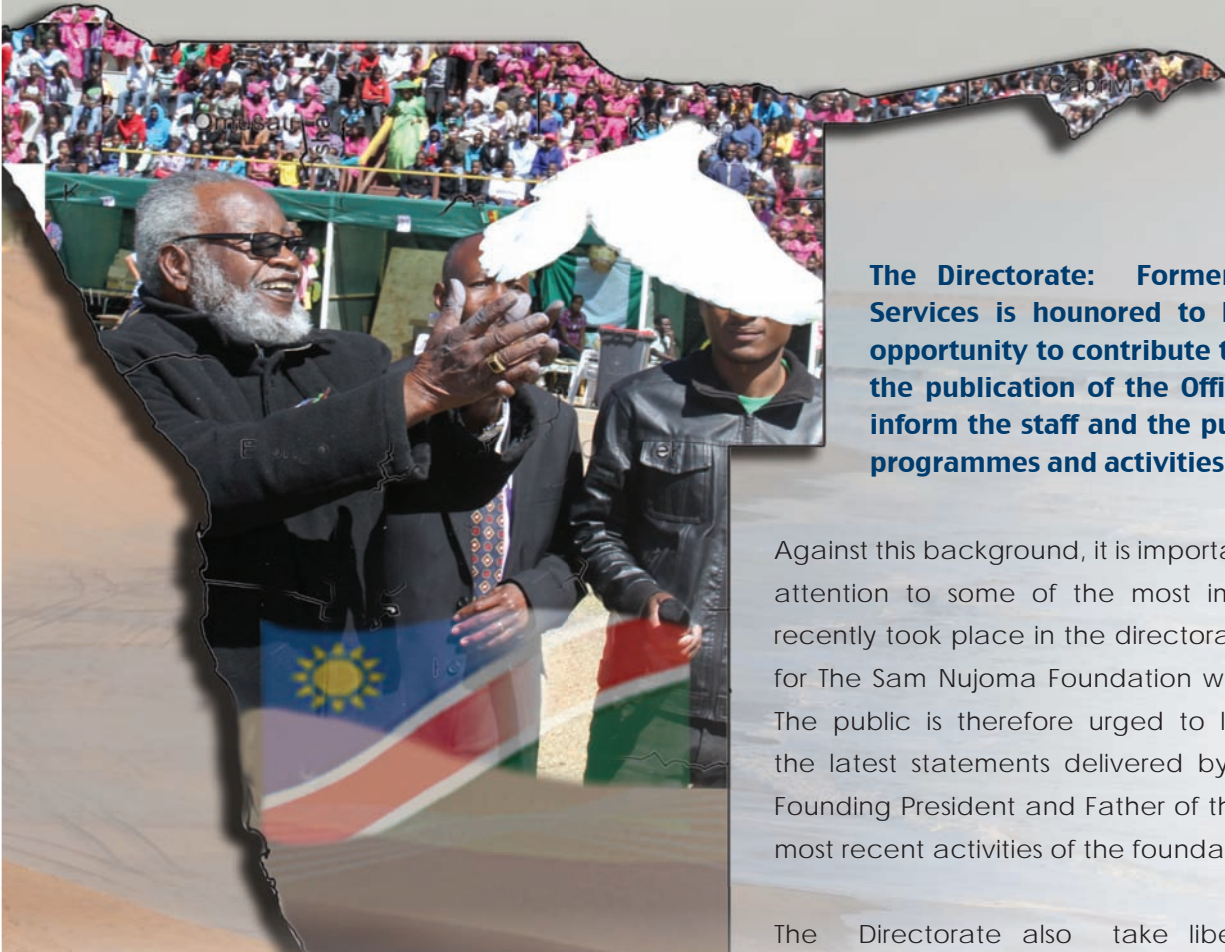
Similarly, corrective measures will be taken where performance is not up to expectation and based on performance reviews, appropriate interventions will be designed whether it is capacity building, attitude change interventions for improved performance.

Mr. /Gôagoseb further stated that the Office of the President is looking at enhancing the communication capacity internally, locally, regionally and internationally, hence the increased bandwidth of internet connectivity and coverage in close collaboration with Telecom and the Office of the Prime Minister. It is for that reason that the Office has installed an advanced server to improve access of e-mails wherever and whenever. This is in compliance of stage two of the E-Governance policy which calls for interactiveness of ICT platforms. This includes interactive website, installation of functional video conferencing facilities etc.

He said that the operationalisation of the video conferencing is a milestone at this Office as it will allow His Excellency the President, to interact simultaneously with all 13 regions. It will also help the President keep abreast with latest developments in regions through scheduled consultative meetings with regional governors.



# *Introduction to* **DIRECTORATE:** **FORMER PRESIDENT'S SUPPORT SERVICES**



**The Directorate: Former Presidents' Support Services is honored to have been given this opportunity to contribute to the fourth Edition of the publication of the Office of the President to inform the staff and the public at large about its programmes and activities.**

Against this background, it is important to draw the readers' attention to some of the most important activities that recently took place in the directorate. The official website for The Sam Nujoma Foundation was recently completed. The public is therefore urged to log on [www.snf.org](http://www.snf.org) for the latest statements delivered by H.E. Dr. Sam Nujoma, Founding President and Father of the Nation as well as the most recent activities of the foundation.

The Directorate also take liberty to announce the retirement of one of the Founding Father's longest aide, Mr. Efraim Dozze Iileka who retired on the 31th of May 2013. He is currently farming in the vicinity of Otavi District. His professionalism, hardwork, commitment and dedication will be greatly missed. We wish him well. The Directorate also acknowledges and welcomes the appointment of new staff members and urge them to serve the Office of the Founding President with the greatest respect it deserves.



## **The Founding President's 84<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

H.E. Dr. Nujoma turned 84 on the 12<sup>th</sup> of May 2013 and to honour his immense contribution to genuine political freedom of Namibia, the 12 May Movement organised a Public Birthday Function that was held at Onawa yaKiliana in the Okatana Constituency, Oshana Region. H.E. Dr. Hifikepunye Pohamba and Madam Penehupifo Pohamba as well as the Prime Minister, Dr. Hage Geingob and many other Political, Spiritual and Community Leaders joined thousands of well-wishers who converged at Onawa yaKiliana to take part in the celebration.





# STATE AND OFFICIAL VISITS - *Part 2*



His Excellency Hifikepunye Pohamba welcoming His Majesty King Mswati III of the Kingdom of Swaziland at State House, Namibia.



In our last edition, volume 3 of this newsletter, we defined the meaning of State and Official visits as well as the importance thereof.

We also shed light on what necessitates these types of visits, the preparations involved, how a President is received at the airport until the completion of ceremonies at State House. In this edition, we will address issues ranging from what happens at the private talks, the visits to industries and signing of agreements until the departure of that particular foreign Head of State.

We defined State visit as a formal visit by a Foreign Head of State to another Nation, at the invitation of that Nation's Head of State.

State visits are the highest form of diplomatic contacts between two Nations and are marked by ceremonial pomp and diplomatic protocol. In Parliamentary Democracies, Heads of State may formally issue and accept invitations. However they do so based on consultations within their governments.

When a foreign Head of State undertakes a trip to Namibia, it is imperative to note that a lot of correspondences, diplomatic activities and administrative work are required in making such an event a success.

If you live in Windhoek or in a town where a Head of State is planning to visit, you will notice that at times the main streets or the streets that are most likely to be used may be decorated with two flags, namely the Namibian flag and the flag of the visiting President. This is a way of paying courtesy to that particular country whilst hosting their President. During such time it is expected from every individual or motorist to be at his/her best behaviour. As much as you have the right as motorists, remember that a Presidential motorcade or those accorded that status inclusive every emergency vehicle also have rights that must be respected.



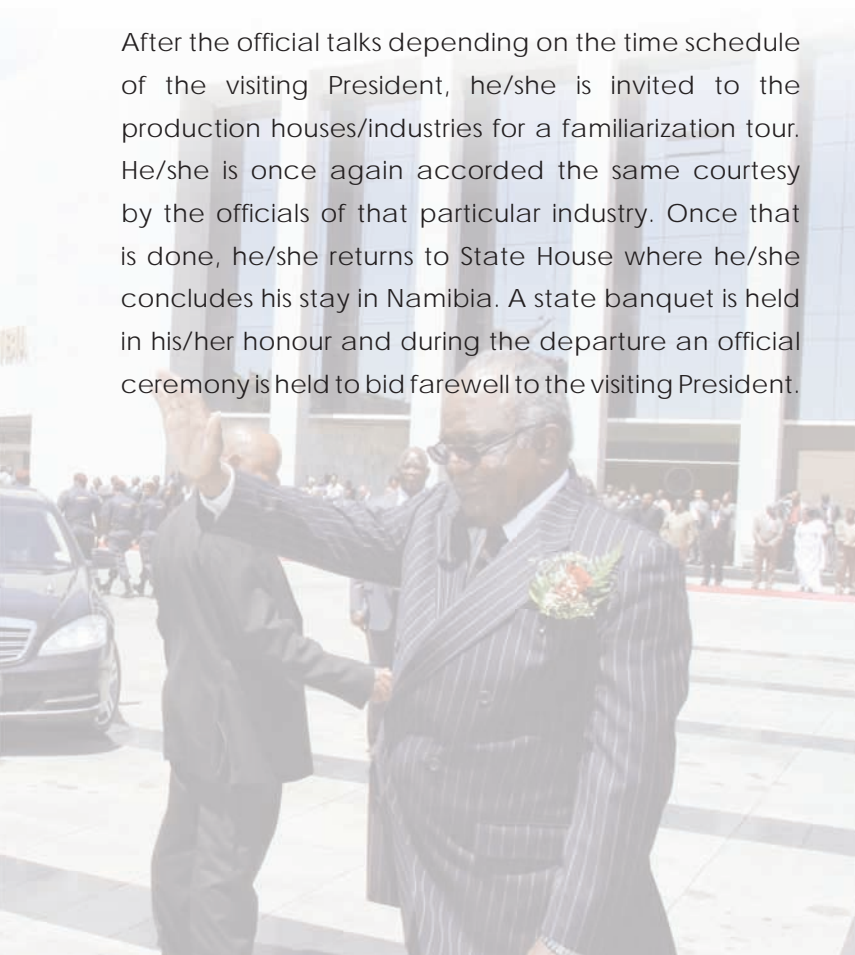
Let's take a closer look at the visit of His Excellency Faure Essozimna Gnassingbe, President of the Republic of Togo. After President Essozimna was received at State House during his visit to Namibia.

When the welcoming ceremonies were complete, his counterpart the host President, His Excellency Hifikepunye Pohamba invited him inside State House for official talks.

*Official talks are regarded as the main reason or the highlight of any official visit by the visiting Presidents because it is the forum where the two representatives of the countries exchange views, learn or discuss matters of common interest and map a way forward.*

It is also a platform to enhance the bilateral relationship between two countries. This important activity at times culminate into agreements which both countries sign shortly after the official talks which the media fraternity ensures that it is disseminated through radio, TV, print and web based communication channels.

After the official talks depending on the time schedule of the visiting President, he/she is invited to the production houses/industries for a familiarization tour. He/she is once again accorded the same courtesy by the officials of that particular industry. Once that is done, he/she returns to State House where he/she concludes his stay in Namibia. A state banquet is held in his/her honour and during the departure an official ceremony is held to bid farewell to the visiting President.







Cde. Kanana Hishoono: **FORMER POLITICAL ADVISOR TO PRESIDENT HIFIKEPUNYE POHAMBHA**

It was a Sunday afternoon when the OP newsletter's crew arrived at Tate Kanana Hishoono's Windhoek house for an interview. We were met by a young man who introduced himself as Tangeni before taking us to the living room. It was a quiet moment as we sat and waited for Tate Hishoono to come and our eyes ran from one portrait to the other until a young woman informed us to meet Tate Hishoono outside the house. After the traditional greetings it seemed like liberation war veteran went down memory lane when he remarked: "In combat, a platoon could share an egg. Come and join me for lunch". As we sat for the feast, he told us that he had an obligation to ensure that the good news he heard at church that morning was shared with his visitors. It was then that he told us about the Holy Trinity and its meaning.

After lunch, we returned inside the house to start the interview. He narrated his life journey by saying he was Cde. Mathias Kanana Hishoono, born in 1936 at Ongula yaNetanga village in the Ondonga traditional authority area. He is 76 and a father of eight children of which seven are alive. He said God had blessed him with more than 30 grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Like many people of his generation, he grew up looking after cattle in the village and went to school only at the age of 16. In 1956, he left for Johannesburg to work in the mines and whilst there, he became interested in politics which was being spearheaded by the likes of Herman Andimba Toivo ya Toivo and Jacob Kuhangwa, who were

coming from Cape Town. Together they formed the Owambo People's Congress (OPC) in 1957, which was transformed into the Owambo People's Organisation (OPO) the following year and subsequently to the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) on April 19, 1960. There he met comrades such as Ya Toivo to push for the formation of SWAPO. In 1964, whilst working in Tsumeb, he was arrested for organising a rally with Vinia Ndadi and Hage Geingob. He was then deported back to his village after spending four months in police holding cells at Tsumeb.

The same year, he decided to join others in exile, but was arrested in Kavango whilst trying to cross into Angola. His friend, Vinia Ndadi, evaded arrest and managed to enter Angola. In 1965, a group of South West Africa Liberation Army (SWALA) combatants arrived in the country. On 26<sup>th</sup> August 1966, the South African colonial forces engaged the freedom fighters in the bushes of Omugulugwombashe in present day Omusati Region, heralding the beginning of Namibia's modern armed national liberation struggle. Tate Hishoono said it required guts to attack an army as big and well-armed as the then South African forces, because the freedom fighters were not properly equipped. He was once again arrested in 1968 after close to two years of playing hide and seek with the South African forces. He was taken to Pretoria in SA where he was tried for co-conspiracy.

By the time he was released he came to find his cuca shop ruined and had to start all over again. His efforts of following a teaching career coincided with the arrival of Commander Pondola Nangombe of PLAN at Onambutu. At that time, the group that formed part of Ya Nangombe's delegation did not have shoes or proper clothes and it was Tate Hishoono, who approached Bishop Leonard Auala of the Evangelical Lutheran Owambo Kavango Church (ELOC), the present day ELCIN, for assistance. Bishop Auala also involved the Matron of the Onandjokwe hospital, Sister Hilia Luuli. That was how the PLAN fighters were assisted with clothing and food donated by business personalities, Eliakim Namundjebo and Mwikiilongo, while medicine was solicited from the Onandjokwe hospital. "When the SA forces discovered that I was once again busy assisting the PLAN forces with



contingencies, they decided to come for me again and eventually drove past me since they were unable to identify me. When I looked at them, I could see that this time around it could mean death for Kanana Hishoono. I sent a message to my wife that I would not return home, and my brother and I disappeared to alert the combatants. That is how I went to Angola through thick bushes," he remarked. In Angola they first went to the base under Commander Kalola (The late Ponhele ya France) and proceeded to another base where to his surprise he met the likes of Cdes. Sam Nujoma, David Meroro, Elias Hauliyondjaba, Zulu and Mbulunganga. This was known as the front. Later, he proceeded to Efitu, Cassinga and Wambu.

Even though he was a teacher, when he got to Cassinga, he had to endure hardship to convince his fellow comrades who were mostly soldiers about the importance of education as soldiers who were guarding the camp believed that liberation was going to be achieved only through the barrel of the gun as opposed to the power of the pen. He later proceeded to Ndjaba where he eventually set up another school and started teaching. Given the positive reception and supportive attitude at the base, education was realized, and cadres like Sebastian Ndeitunga were good in different languages and played a vital role in the education of the children. Others like Erica Shafuda, Towebele Shipo and many others were taught at that school and when they reached maturity they went abroad for further education. As a result of his well-spent time at Ndjaba, Tate Hishoono was appointed as SWAPO's Deputy Secretary for Political Mobilization and Orientation. He vividly recalls that it was during that time that the incumbent, President Hifikepunye Pohamba was posted to Russia for political studies and many other cadres to various countries like Croatia and Cuba.

Tate Hishoono equally had lucky stars on his side and he was eventually posted in 1983 to study in Cuba with others like Henock ya Kasita and managed to complete his studies in 1986 at the Political Academy called NICOLOPEZ which was regarded as the highest school of the Communist Party of Cuba. This time the classes were in Spanish and "I can even dream in Spanish", he joked.

Whilst in Cuba, he was the SWAPO Coordinator at the Island of the Youth.

## **Message to the Nation and next Political Advisor**

After the attainment of independence in 1990, Tate Hishoono continued to render significant contribution in his quest of unending service to humanity and the Namibian nation and served as Special Advisor on political affairs to two successive Heads of State, commencing with Sam Nujoma on 7 December 1997 for a period of seven (7) years and another eight (8) years when he was reappointed in 2005 by H.E. Dr. Hifikepunye Pohamba in the same capacity until his retirement in December 2012. For a man who has been a special advisor to two successive Presidents, it is a clear indication that being at the top echelon of the first office in the land is not a mean task, As such he gave candid advice to would-be special advisors: "It should be noted that being an advisor to a President is not as easy as it sounds.

The Presidents have high expectation of their advisors. Tate Hishoono advised that one should be well-organized. As the saying goes, "get your ducks in a row". You should be well-informed and up to date with various issues ranging from developmental to socio-economic. Also make sure that you familiarize yourself with leaders from various backgrounds and levels and study psychology. Have a lot of patience and, most importantly, acquaint yourself with the Government and its operations, know international and local politics. If you are not sure of a specific issue, never pretend that you are, or that you know. As much as it is expected of you to know, you can get into serious trouble. Always consult, consult and consult," he remarked.

Tate Hishoono has been Headman of Nambutu village since 1990 and is happy in his retirement as he can concentrate on his duties together with his wife of ensuring that their grandchildren get the education they deserve. He remarked that his doors will also continue to be open for the Head of State or any cadre who deems it necessary to consult him on issues benefiting the Namibian nation. Tate Hishoono was also Deputy Secretary for Information & Mobilisation of the SWAPO Party between 1990 and 1992 and served as Head of the SWAPO Elders Council for several years.

# ICT AT THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT REACHES GREATER HEIGHTS

<http://www.op.gov.na>



**"I can confidently tell you that as an Office we have done well for ourselves in the area of ICT, However, a lot more still need to be done since ICT is revolving. Its the opposite of wine. You can't store ICT equipment to be used in future as the future will require different technology"**

Justus Rudolf: IT System Administrator at the Office of the President

Rudolf decided to share information on Information Communication Technology (ICT) at the Office of the President.

**"By the time I joined the Office of the President I found the train already moving and would therefore not claim credit on the succes we have achieved thus far, but I'm happy that I'm part of the future team"**

Rudolf explained that their division, IT Support Services has become imperative for the Office of the President because each and every Official is equipped with a tool that is IT related. He jokingly said that "without IT tools such as cellular phones would be impossible to locate us in the Office of the President's building."

In this edition, Rudolf acknowledged Management's vision and attitude that is geared towards positioning the Office of the President at the helm of ICT, which is making his work easier day by day. He explained that the IT Support Services personnel are busy people, not only at the Office of the President but in general, because Information Communication Technology has become an integral part of our daily lives and influences our tasks to a greater extend. "You can imagine how it is almost impossible to pay a visit to a relative before calling that person and enquire if he/she is at home"

In the office environment, IT personnel deals with various aspects, more especially with computing which requires technical repairs, installations, programming, maintenance of the server and trouble shooting. Problems with computing are rampant as the majority of it are user based.

For the Office of the President to comply with the



E-Governance Policy which calls on “all Government offices to provide ICT services to its citizens 24 hours a day, 7 days a week”, the Office has ensured that the 1st phase was achieved within a shortest period possible. These amongst others, were to ensure that every official is equipped with basic ICT tools like a computer, also ensure that there is networking of such tools available and to make interaction possible. This facilitated access to information internally and externally.

With the assistance of the Department responsible for information dissemination we needed to create accessibility of relevant information related to the Office of the President to the public. This was done by creating a website which we launched officially and we continue to create awareness about the accessibility of this website through various corporate items or information communication print materials. These are all done to improve transparency and to ensure that we connect with our stake holders, the people of the Republic of Namibia.

The next phase that we are currently trying to achieve is the interaction stage. As technicians, after the concept has been agreed on at Management level, we step in immediately and start with the necessary assesment of what is needed to achieve that specific objective. Once all stake holders needs are identified we look at what is possible and what is not. We also look at what services need to be outsourced inorder to achieve the desired outcome. Based on that, we execute our duties with dilligence and professionalism.

As the Permanent Secretary alluded in one of the articles, we are all working hard to see to it that we realise the maximum utilisation of ICT facilities after phase 4 of the E-Governance Maturity Model which calls for transformation from a low literate computer end-user to an advanced technological Nation. In the next edition, we will bring you more information about basic computer skills and also discuss about the Tele-Conference facilities.

# APPOINTMENTS, STAFF MOVEMENTS, RETIREMENTS

## From the HR's desk

Appointed



**Matthew N. Andreas**  
Special Assistant to the President  
Private Office



**Kashindi Ausiku**  
Personal Assistant to the Founding President



**Esther T. Moonde**  
Training Officer



**Delia Lushwenyo**  
Waitress

Promoted



**Jackson Wandjiva**  
Director: Speech Writing, Research & Media Liaison



**Florence Kambato**  
Accountant  
Reconciliation Revenue



**Minette Amukwaya**  
Control Officer  
National Assembly

Retired



**Efraim Doze lileka**  
Snr. Personal Assistant to the Founding President



**Kanana Hishoono**  
Political Advisor to the President



**Magano Kashani**  
Deputy Director  
Household Services



**Martin Shilemba**  
Control Officer

16



# MADAM POHAMBA AND HER ROLES AS FIRST LADY OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

This newsletter researched on the previous articles covered about the First Lady and her mandate. It is with this in mind that we have compiled the following article in order to adequately inform and educate our readers about the activities of the Office of the First Lady.

## The Vision Statement:

To effectively use the First Lady's unique role to contribute to and compliment the efforts of the Government of the Republic of Namibia and OAFLA in the promotion of comprehensive and quality care for women and children and the empowerment of women, widows, widowers, orphans and other vulnerable persons, especially those infected and affected by HIV and AIDS.

## The Mission Statements:

- Mobilize resources from government, private, local and international development partners; philanthropists/celebrities, etc. for the implementation of Mother Child Health and OAFLA Agendas and other empowerment projects and programmes;
- Promote accountability and transparent use of acquired resources;
- Advocate for the elimination of new HIV infection among children, zero stigma/discrimination and zero HIV and AIDS related deaths;
- Communicate information to community, traditional and religious leaders on issues related to maternal and child health (MCH), HIV/AIDS, reproductive health, teenage pregnancy, vaccine preventable diseases, disability and child upbringing;
- Make a sound contribution to the improvement of accessibility to MCH services and programme for the reduction of maternal and child deaths in the country;
- Compliment the Government's strategies towards extreme poverty alleviation, advocacy for human rights and empowerment of women, widows, widowers, orphans and other vulnerable persons.





## THREE MAJOR FOCUS AREAS WHICH MADAM POHAMBAMBA FOCUSED ON DURING HER TENURE AS PRESIDENT OF OAFLA. *October 2011 - July 2013*

- 1 Advocacy for good partnerships and fund raising activities;
- 2 Advocacy for the expansion of effective HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support strategies;
- 3 Advocacy for the improvement of OAFLA membership



### OFFICE OF THE FIRST LADY PARTNERS AND STAKEHOLDERS

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <b>Office of the President</b>   | 6.3. GAVI Alliance   |
| 2. <b>Government Ministries:</b>  | 6.4. Austism Speaks  |
| 2.1. Ministry of Health and Social Services                                   | 6.5. Shafallah Centre for Children with Special Needs in Doha, Qatar           |
| 2.2. Ministry of Gender Equality, Women & Child Welfare                       | 6.6. McCarton Foundation and School for Autistic Children, New York            |
| 2.3. Ministry of Finance  | 6.7. All China Women Foundation (ACWF), Beijing, People's Republic of China    |
| 2.4. Ministry of Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development |  |
| 3. <b>Office of the Prime Minister</b>  | 7. <b>Local NGOs:</b>  |
| 4. <b>National Planning Commission</b>  | 7.1. OEWONA  |
| 5. <b>UN Agencies:</b>  | 7.2. Mukwamhalanga Community Trust   |
| 5.1. UNFPA  | 7.3. Namibian Planned Parenthood (NAPPA)                                       |
| 5.2. UNAIDS   | 7.4. NamPharm  |
| 5.3. UNICEF   | 7.5. Mount Sinai   |
| 5.4. WHO  | 7.6. ITECH   |
| 5.5. CDC  | 7.7. Tutekula Children's Organization  |
| 5.6. PEPFAR   | 7.8. NawaLife Trust  |
| 5.7. World Bank   | 8. <b>Local Business Communities</b>   |
| 6. <b>International Organizations:</b>  | 9. <b>Diplomatic Corps:</b>  |
| 6.1. RAND Corporation: African First Ladies' Fellowship Programme             | 9.1. Embassies   |
| 6.2. International Planned Parenthood (IPPF)                                  | 9.2. Diplomatic Spouses  |
|   | 9.3. Tokyo International Conference of Africa Development (First Ladies Forum) |

# USEFUL INFORMATION ABOUT CANCER

The previous edition of this newsletter covered Health related matters with a special emphasis on HIV/AIDS with special thanks to the Walvisbay Corridor Group HIV/AIDS help Desk.

This time around, we approached the Cancer Association of Namibia to familiarize our selves with Cancer related illnesses and the information we got from them was overwhelming.

This newsletter will consciously continue to endeavour incorporating relevant information on health learning issues in our various editions to compliment efforts by our local health institutions to support family health education through the dissemination of well researched IEC messages.

It is our hope that your will find these articles on cancer useful. Ed.

## What is CaNceR?

The organs in our bodies are made up of **cells**. Cells are produced by an existing cell **copying itself** and **splitting** to produce two new cells. This is called **cell cycle**. This cycle is tightly controlled and it only happens if the body needs to replace worn out cells. When these cells **continue multiplying** even when the body doesnt need them, the result is a **mass growth**, also called a **tumor**.

### {Eat healthy, balanced meals}.

- Eat some protein (meat, fish and eggs)
  - Eat cereal and grains (bread, porridge and pasta)
  - Eat lots of fruit and vegetables (apples, bananas and salad)
  - Eat some dairy (cheese, yoghurt and milk)
- Don't eat too many sugary foods (sweets, cake and cooldrinks)
- Don't eat too much red meat



### {Dont drink alcohol}.

Drinking alcohol regularly increases your risk factor for many types of cancer.

- Drinking alcohol is not cool, it causes cancer
- Don't even start drinking alcohol
- Rather drink water, it's healthier



Namibians who would like to become a bone marrow donor and help save leukaemia sufferers, can contact the Sunflower Fund on Tel: [+27 701 0661](tel:+277010661) or [www.sunflowerfund.org.za](http://www.sunflowerfund.org.za)





# What causes CaNceR?

## Dispel damaging myths and misconceptions about cancer

### Myth 1:

Cancer is just a health issue.

### Truth:

Approximately 47% of cancer cases and 55% of cancer deaths occur in less developed regions of the world.

### Genetics

(inheritance from family)

If someone in your **family** have had cancer, you are at a higher risk of developing cancer than people with no **history of cancer** in their families.

### Viruses

Some **viruses** can help to cause some cancers, but it does not mean every virus is a cancer virus.

### The immune system

People who have **problems** with their immune systems are more likely to get some types of cancer.

### The sun and UV rays

People who expose their **skin** to **direct sunlight** or UV rays for many hours of the day are more at risk of developing cancer.

### Diet and physical activity

People who are overweight, lead an **unhealthy lifestyle** and do not participate in any form of exercise are more at risk of developing cancer.

### Hubbly bubbly, hooka or okka pipe

People who **inhale smoke** through any of these ways are at risk of developing cancer.

### Smoking and second hand smoke

People who **inhale smoke** through any of these ways are at risk of developing cancer.



# CaNceR Prevention Tips

Experts estimate that more than 4 in 10 cancer cases could be prevented. **Here's how:**

### { Avoid smoking and exposure to smoke }

- Smoking is **not cool**, it causes cancer
- **Don't start** smoking
- **Stay away** from friends who do



### { Sun safety }

Skin cancers are the most **preventable**.

- Wear **sunscreen SPF30**
- Don't be in the sun between 10h00 and 15h00
- Wear **sunglasses**
- Wear big hats and protective clothing



### { Exercise Daily }

Just **30 minutes** of moderate **activity** a day, five days a week, can have a positive effect on your health.

- Swim, dance or ride your bike it's **healthy**
- Lead an **active lifestyle**



### { Eat your fruit and veggies }

**Fruits and vegetables** (especially brightly coloured) contain antioxidants, which help **repair** our damaged cells.

- Eat **5 portions** of fruit and veggies a day





# CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT *and...*



The Founding President



Madam Graca Machel



Mr. Katutire Kaura - DTA of Namibia



Ambassador Wanda Nesbit - USA



Covenant Church Pittsburg - USA



Permanent Secretaries



Mr. Usutuaie Maamberua - SWANU Party



Mr. Ben Ulenga - COD Party



Mr. Hidipo Hamutenya - RDP



Commonwealth delegation



Mr. Gwede Mantashe - ANC



The Council of Churches in Namibia



The NUNW leadership



Mr. Ignatius Shikhwameni - APP



## GROUP A

## Social League Log-Standing

| SR.# | Team                    | P  | W  | D | L  | GF | GA  | GD  | PTS |
|------|-------------------------|----|----|---|----|----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1    | FNB Namibia F.C         | 15 | 11 | 4 | 0  | 41 | 14  | 27  | 37  |
| 2    | Office of the President | 15 | 10 | 4 | 1  | 37 | 15  | 22  | 34  |
| 3    | Plastic Packaging       | 15 | 9  | 3 | 3  | 32 | 22  | 10  | 30  |
| 4    | Fito United             | 14 | 8  | 5 | 1  | 40 | 16  | 24  | 29  |
| 5    | Mulan F.C               | 15 | 8  | 2 | 5  | 40 | 32  | 8   | 26  |
| 6    | Monate Fela             | 14 | 7  | 3 | 4  | 39 | 30  | 9   | 24  |
| 7    | Voltman All Stars       | 15 | 5  | 6 | 4  | 27 | 24  | 3   | 21  |
| 8    | Metropolitan F.C        | 15 | 4  | 6 | 5  | 19 | 22  | -3  | 18  |
| 9    | Telecom F.C 14          | 4  | 3  | 7 | 17 | 30 | -13 | 15  |     |
| 10   | Min of Justice          | 15 | 4  | 3 | 8  | 22 | 36  | -14 | 15  |
| 11   | Bank of Namibia         | 14 | 3  | 5 | 6  | 20 | 22  | -2  | 14  |
| 12   | Standard Bank           | 14 | 3  | 5 | 6  | 22 | 28  | -6  | 14  |
| 13   | Murray & Roberts        | 15 | 3  | 4 | 8  | 14 | 30  | -16 | 13  |
| 14   | WHK Machine Fabric      | 15 | 4  | 1 | 10 | 15 | 41  | -26 | 13  |
| 15   | Omulunga Radio          | 14 | 3  | 1 | 10 | 23 | 28  | -5  | 10  |
| 16   | Windhoek Prisons        | 15 | 2  | 3 | 10 | 12 | 30  | -18 | 9   |

## THE O.O.P BOYS IN TOP FORM THIS SEASON

The Office of the President Soccer team vows to end this season on top as they continue to outperform the other Ministries and parastatals partaking in the Social league with style. It is however not as easy as it sounds for the O.O.P Boys as they were frank this time around when they talked about their successes and challenges in the quest to get the top spot.

When this newsletter crew spoke to Nicholas Smith who is also the assistant to the Care Taker Coach Lawrance Katjiingua who was not available by the time of this interview, Mr. Smith informed us that the O.O.P Boys (an unofficial term they use for Office Of the President) are well organised and are in top form. He hinted that

the secret to their success is because the team has a combination of younger and active players, old, tried, dribbling and experienced football masters, and the middle aged who are in between the two categories who are the perfect breed every soccer team needs.

Smith explained that there are areas of focus apart from aiming for the top spot and among these are; the challenges faced by the team such as a) The fitness level of the players, b) Lack of a training and a track (field) for training and c) the shaping of skills among some players.





# LEARNERS FROM OSHIFO PRIVATE SCHOOL



## CONTACT DETAILS

THE PERMANENT SECRETARY  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
1 ENGELBERG STREET, AUASBLICK  
P/BAG 13339, WINDHOEK  
NAMIBIA

TEL: 264 (61) 2707111  
FAX: 264 (61) 221780  
E-Mail: [pmuyunda@op.gov.na](mailto:pmuyunda@op.gov.na)  
Website: [www.op.gov.na](http://www.op.gov.na)