



**REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA**

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

**BY THE**

**MINISTER OF YOUTH, NATIONAL  
SERVICE, SPORT AND CULTURE,  
HON. KAZENAMBO KAZENAMBO**

**DURING THE PRESS CONFERENCE FOR  
THE ARRIVAL OF PARALYMPIC TEAM  
NAMIBIA**

**HOSEA KUTAKO INTERNATIONAL  
AIRPORT,  
11 SEPTEMBER 2012**

Hon. Deputy Minister Pohamba Shifeta  
Distinguished Permanent Secretary;  
Staff Members of the Ministry of Youth, National  
Service, Sport and Culture;  
Members of the Press;  
Ladies and Gentleman:

1. This is Namibia's first Gold Medal at an Olympic event.
2. Johanna Benson won a Gold medal in 200m T37 event by 29.11 seconds.
3. Johanna Benson won a Silver medal in the 100m T37 event by 14.26 seconds.
4. Her achievements date back to the year 2010 when she won a bronze medal at the Common Wealth Games in India.
5. To build an Olympic Class Athlete is a process that requires time, patience, commitment, discipline, hard work and SUPPORT.
6. When an athlete qualifies for an Olympic, the athlete needs to be congratulated and supported.
7. Johanna Benson comes from a disadvantaged background and this should serve as an inspiration to all our people. The entire Namibia should fully stand behind her.
8. I am calling for Namibian corporate companies to consider investing in our athletes in order to expect champions.
9. Time for public leaders to support in uniting Namibia.
10. Namibia's preparation for the 2016 Olympics and Paralympics in Rio de Janeiro in Brazil starts today, if we are to expect medals in four years' time.
11. We want real investments in our athletes and not those who want to exploit athletes and market themselves at the expense of the athletes' efforts.

12. Government will create a platform and will invite all stakeholders with an opportunity to pledge support for our athletes.

**I THANK YOU.**