



Republic of Namibia

REMARKS

**BY THE MINISTER OF SPORT, YOUTH
AND NATIONAL SERVICE**

HON. ERASTUS A. UUTONI

ON 18 JUNE 2019

**AT THE OFFICIAL UNVAILING OF THE
MEMBERS OF THE NAMIBIA SPORTS
COMMISSION**

Thank you, Director of Ceremonies!

- Hon. Agnes Tjongarero, Deputy Minister;
- Rev. Ludwig Hausiku, Special Advisor;
- Mrs. Emma-Kantema Gaomas, Executive Director;
- Mr. Edelberth Katamba, Director of Sport;
- Mr. Simataa Mwiya, Chief Administrator NSC;
- Respective new members of the Namibia Sports Commission;
- Distinguished invited guests;
- Members of the media;
- Ladies and gentlemen;
- Allow me to say all protocol observed.

I am delighted this afternoon to unveil members of the Namibia Sports Commission, a very important body that serves the development of sports in the country.

The Government through an Act of Parliament, the Namibia Sports Act 12 of 2003 provided for the establishment of the Namibia Sports Commission and its powers and functions which mainly are for Sports Administration, provide for the registration and regulation of national sports bodies, national umbrella sports bodies and for incidental matters.

Therefore, from the onset I wish to underscore the importance of sport as a very important tool for one's life and participation and should always be encouraged. Participation in sports makes us active, healthy, fit, and also develop our social and communication skills. The most common saying "Healthy mind lives in Healthy body" is so true because for a person to be successful, his physical as well as mental state, should be well. Sport is the greater source of recreation, entertainment that teaches us the value of time and is very important for kids and youth at their growing stage.

Sport therefore and most importantly is a great factor of integration. In our ever more diverse and individualized societies, sport is the best in some cases, even the only bond that links people with the community, regardless of

social, racial, political background. In this way, sport creates identification and inclusion.

Director of proceedings

As we are gathered here today to unveil the nine (9) members of Namibia Sports Commission, I am proud to state that sport in Namibia regardless of challenges is making significant strides. Over the past few years we have witnessed how some of the Namibian sport men and women participating at international platform. Through these participations, we have produced world class athletes that won medals at those different platforms and qualified them as world champions. All that in my personal opinion, is a sign that means that we are on the right path and doing well as a nation.

I thus wish to re-affirm our Government's commitment to build and achieve a caring, united and socially cohesive Namibia through the Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service, as the custodian for sport and youth development.

Therefore, I wish to urge the incoming commissioners to work towards the full realisation of the Namibia Sports Commission' Strategic Plan for 2018 to 2022, which is our roadmap that will guide all sports activities in Namibia. The plan has five (5)

strategic key objectives: enhancing sports development and participation, improving sports management capacity, ensuring the compliance to sports legal and regulatory frameworks, promoting financial self-reliance in sport, and enhancing national excellence.

Ladies and Gentlemen;

This team of commissioners collectively bring a wealth of sport experience as most of them are professionals in the sporting industry. We have strong knowledge in leadership, financial management, human resource development and the practice of law within this crop of commissioners.

One of your important tasks will be to advise the Minister on the needs of sport in the country and for that, my office door will always be open to you. I once again reiterate the call of my predecessors for this commissioners to devise ways and means to dramatically enable Namibia to move away and far from the status quo, to new dimensions unto higher grounds. Therefore, I urge that you carry out your duties as commissioners in a fair, exemplary and transparent manner.

Let me also take this opportunity to thank the outgoing commissioners for their immense contribution toward the

development of sport over the past three (3) years. Their work will not go in vain but will form part of the foundation to which the incoming board will build on.

In conclusion, I wish to appeal to the incoming commissioners to carry out your given assignment for the interest of the nation and the overall development of Sport in Namibia. Let us work in unity and purpose to ensure the proper administration of national sports bodies and national umbrella sports bodies as well as most importantly, ensure that opportunities for sport are made available to all persons throughout Namibia.

Allow me now to call each and every member by name as they will rise one by one:

- 1. Commissioner Mr. Joel N. Matheus (Chairperson)**
- 2. Commissioner Ms. Alna Clara Magrieth Similo**
- 3. Commissioner Mr. Tomas J. Mbeeli**
- 4. Commissioner Ms. Linda Dumba Chicalu**
- 5. Commissioner Ms. Erica Beukes**
- 6. Commissioner Mr. Werner Edmund Jeffrey**
- 7. Commissioner Ms. Karen Mubonenwa**
- 8. Commissioner Mr. Nicklause Jacob Nghumono**
- 9. Commissioner Dr. Marius Fredrick Johannes**

As a norm in weeks to come, you will all be expected to undergo an induction course that will allow you to acquaint

yourself with the operations of Namibia Sports Commission and the governing tools. I therefore wish you all, the best of luck in your three (3) year term with the Namibia Sports Commission.

It is now my honour to declare the members officially commissioned. God bless you all.

And I thank you.

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