



WELCOMING REMARKS BY HONOURABLE

PROFF. PETER H. KATJAVIVI

MP & SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

AT THE

STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS (2016)

TUESDAY, 5 APRIL 2016

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS
WINDHOEK
KHOMAS REGION**

Your Excellency, Dr. Hage Gottfried Geingob, President of the Republic of Namibia and Madam Monica Geingos,

Your Excellency, Dr. Nickey Iyambo, Vice President of the Republic of Namibia,

Right Honourable Saar Kuugongelwa-Amadhila, Prime Minister,

Your Excellency, Dr. Hifikepunye Pohamba, Former President of the Republic of Namibia and Madam Pohamba,

Honourable Margreth Mensah-Williams, Chairperson of the National Council,

Your Lordship, Peter Shivute, Chief Justice,

Honourable Members of Parliament,

Your Excellencies, Members of the Diplomatic Co,

Eminent Invited Guests,

My dear Wife Mrs. Jane Katjavivi,

Mr. Wycliff Williams, the Spouse of the Chairperson of the National Council,

Fellow Citizens,

Members of the Media,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In accordance with Article 32 (2) of the Constitution of the Republic of Namibia, the President is required, during the consideration of the National Budget, to attend Parliament. During such session the President shall address Parliament on the State of the Nation as well as on future policies of the Government and report on policies of the previous year. It is on such occasion that the President will be available to respond to questions from the Members.

Your Excellency, this will be your second opportunity, since taking the Oath of Office, as the Third President of the Republic of Namibia, to grace our august House. We are happy to welcome you back, to your former regular place of work.

As Head of State and Government, you have demonstrated absolute commitment to issues of national development, inclusivity and service delivery. By so doing, you have reinforced our National Vision and set priorities for

development of our Republic. We as Parliamentarians, fully support your great efforts, as repeatedly confirmed by me and my colleague, the Chairperson of the National Council.

You remind us daily, Your Excellency, that we are building a united and strong Namibian House in which *“no Namibian should feel left out”*. We are encouraged by this noble and clarion call and stand ready to support the Government to be proactive and inclusive in development planning and action.

Of particular interest for us, is the investment in Namibia’s most vulnerable and disadvantaged members of society, amongst them the children, the women, the elders, the youth and the physically challenged people. It is the best insurance policy. We dare not to forget them, to safeguard peace, national unity and sustainable social development.

Change does not bury the gains of the past, it only adds new thinking and dynamism to heritage for further progress. We therefore welcome the *“Harambee Prosperity Plan”* that you

have articulated. *Harambee Prosperity Plan* as we understand it will be based on the principles of prudent and sustainable macro-economic policies, disciplined fiscal management and effective cost controls. This will enable the government to work hard to turn the economy around and making productive sectors achieve higher and sustainable growth, social progress and prosperity that our people expect from our government.

We are aware, Your Excellency, that you want all Namibians to overcome the challenges that our economy is facing and to keep in step with the demands of Vision 2030 and the “*Harambee Prosperity Plan*” efforts. We will listen to you attentively, Your Excellency, and most importantly, we want to pledge our unwavering support to you, as you chart the future of our country and take it to greater heights.

Having said that, Honourable Members, it is now my distinct honour and privilege to invite His Excellency, the President of

the Republic of Namibia, Dr. Hage Gottfried Geingob, to address Parliament on the State of the Nation.

Your Excellency, you have the floor!

-After the address by His Excellency-

May I sincerely thank you, Your Excellency, on behalf of my colleague, the Chairperson of the National Council and on behalf of our Members for the though provoking presentation in which you have further elaborated your vision for this country. In particular the elements that underpin the *Harambee Prosperity Plan*.

Honourable Members, as the tradition has it, the Floor is now open for a two-way engagement and feedback with His Excellency the President.

**-After the questions by the Leaders of the Opposition
Parties-**

Those were the questions addressed to you, Your Excellency.
You have the Floor.

**-After the reply to the questions by the Leaders of the
Opposition Parties-**

Your Excellency, as we are about to conclude, may I once again reiterate our collective trust and confidence in your reassuring leadership. We wish you the very best in directing the affairs of our nation. Once again, thank you very much.

On that note I now adjourn this joint session until further notice, however, the National Assembly will resume its business tomorrow afternoon at 14:30.

I call on the Sergeant-At-Arms to escort the presidential procession out of the House. I will ask the Honourable Members and guests to remain standing.

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