

MAIDEN SPEECH IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

By [ClemenciaEmmaCoetzee]

Member of Parliament – Republic of Namibia

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Honourable Speaker

Honorable Esteemed members of this August House

I am pleased to announce my presence in this August House as a newly elected member of the 8th Parliament of the Republic of Namibia, representing the Mighty Swapo Party.

My name is Clemencia Emma Coetzee, coming from the South, //Kharas Region, more specific from Karasburg in the Karasburg East Constituency. Being a business woman for over 14 years and a people's person I can only thank God Almighty, for granting me this opportunity to serve the Namibian Nation on this platform. Thanks to my father, the late Eduard Hoxobeb, a staunch Swapo Party member and a war veteran, who taught me at a very young age to be steadfast and who instilled in me die unwavering will, to never surrender. Thank you my dear father, your voice is no more to be heard, but you will forever be in my heart.q

Secondly let me thank the Late Hon Mutti Hanse Himarwa whom I start my political career with, at a young tender age of 17 in Aranos. May her beloved soul rest in eternal peace.

Honourable Speaker

Honourable Members

I wish to pour out my deep respect to the SWAPO Party for being the liberating force and ruling party which govern our country. The SWAPO Party granted me this opportunity of public service because it stands as the liberation vehicle that brings unity and progressive change to Namibia. Throughout my time in office, I will uphold all values the Party dedicated to inclusivity and development which developed me into the person I am today.

I present my maiden speech before this August House with a firm grasp of the realities experienced by our people. The three most critical matters needing emergency response include unemployment, education and housing which directly affect the survival of our citizens.

Honourable Speaker

Honourable Members

Unemployment persists by breaking down the aspirations of young people as it blocks national advancement. The southern region alongside several other Namibian areas matches this pattern where youthful people possess work readiness with specific abilities ready to work yet they encounter an unresponsive job market. This situation will be tackled through the purposeful and targeted approach as announced by our President Dr Nandi Ndaitwah. We as Namibians particularly as SWAPO Members we shall go out of our way to support and work hand in glove with our President Dr Nandi Ndaitwah to make sure that she succeeds in her quest to make Namibia even better.

Through the SWAPO Manifesto, our President has clearly articulated her vision which today has been married with the NDP 6 to make sure that the lives of Namibians are improved. Therefore, Namibia's path toward successful development depends on using the complete capacity of its human resources. It is essential for us to dedicate ourselves right now to developing substantial solutions which will improve the everyday existence of Namibian people.

I am therefore happy to note that the new Minister of Finance Hon Ericah Shafutah is directing the bulk of the funding towards developing sectors which show promise including agriculture, farming, and fishing as well as

tourism and logistics together with renewable energy sources. These sectors need expansion both inside urban regions and in the entire rural Namibian territories to uplift the lives of ordinary Namibians. Namibia possesses latent resources which need proper development strategies. Through collaborations between public and private entities together with strategic planning Namibia can further develop farming and grow livestock exports while enhancing solar and wind power systems which have started to create new economic opportunities and jobs.

Skills training at technical and vocational levels needs to adopt programs which respond to professional sector requirements. Technological certificates should be replaced by educational programs that teach real skills which help students develop competitive capacities to produce and innovate. The development of entrepreneurship needs ^{Strong} vigorous backing which includes financial backing otherwise such entrepreneurial undertakings may not yield satisfactory results. What I

know is that our people as a proud nation seek employment opportunities together with possibilities for growth and hence, I believe that the SWAPO Manifesto will successfully address these challenges.

Through collaborative teamwork we can build Namibia into a nation that gives employment status as a basic entitlement to all our citizens according to my belief as a mother.

Education

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members,

Education is and has always been the cornerstone of our nation's development. Since our Independence, the ruling party has demonstrated a clear and unwavering commitment to expanding educational access across Namibia. We have seen more schools built, more learners enrolled, and significant progress in teacher training and curriculum reform. These are achievements we must recognize and celebrate.

However, even as we acknowledge this progress, we must also confront the challenges that remain. In our villages, many learners still travel long distances to attend schools. This administration is committed to making an big difference with a vision for a truly inclusive Namibia to become reality.

Education is the great equalizer. It is the bridge between where a child is and where their dreams can take them. It is the single most important investment we can make to reduce poverty, empower future generations, and shape a resilient economy. When we neglect this investment, we risk extinguishing the very hope that drives our children forward.

Honourable Speaker

Honourable Members,

.the policy groundwork has been laid. Now, let us strengthen it together. Let us honour the promise of Independence by ensuring that every Namibian child, no matter where they are born, has access to quality education, dignity in the classroom, and a future filled with opportunity.

Education is the heartbeat of any nation's development and Namibia is no exception. Since gaining Independence, our country under the leadership of the ruling party has made commendable strides in transforming the education sector. Classrooms that were once few and far between now dot every region. More children than ever before are attending school, and more Namibians are gaining qualifications that were once beyond reach.

Conclusion

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members,

As I rise in this Chamber for the first time, I do so not merely as a Member of Parliament but as a voice for the many Namibians whose stories are seldom heard. I carry with me the life experiences of mothers and of graduates.

These are not statistics to me they are people I know. They are my neighbours, my community, my daily reality. They are the heartbeat of Namibia, and they are the reason I am here.

We must make democracy real and tangible in the lives of our people. That means ensuring that our actions are felt not just within these walls but in every township, every village, every farm, and every home. Our work must translate into stronger schools, safer communities, more jobs, and dignified lives

I commit myself fully to this cause. I will serve with humility, but also with courage. I will remain rooted in the realities of those who placed their trust in me. I will listen more than I speak, and I will fight for progress that can be seen, touched, and lived, especially for my nation, who have entrusted me with this profound responsibility.

trapped in a cycle of poverty that limits every other opportunity, education, employment, and health.

Therefore, we must now accelerate the delivery of affordable and inclusive housing across Namibia. Let us embrace bold, innovative models such as rent-to-own schemes, cooperative housing, and land subsidies. Let us explore climate-resilient and cost-effective building technologies that preserve both affordability and durability.

We must cut through red tape and empower our local authorities with the resources, flexibility, and decision-making autonomy to design housing solutions that reflect the realities of their communities. Serviced land delivery must be fast-tracked. Urban planning must speak to the lived experiences of our low-income residents

Let us be clear: a house is more than four walls. It is a launchpad for a better life. It is where dreams begin and where futures are shaped. And in building homes, we are building a stronger, more just, and more united Namibia.

Together, let us work towards a nation where every citizen regardless of income can lay their head down at night in safety, security, and dignity. Let us make that our shared goal. Let us turn the hope of housing into the reality of home.

Let us commit, from this House, that we will leave no learner behind. That the conditions in which a child is born shall never determine the limits of their dreams.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members,

I would like to touch on housing or should I say shelter. Housing is not just about shelter, it is the foundation upon which dignity, security, and opportunity are built. And today, while Namibia continues to progress in many areas of development, we must acknowledge that access to housing remains one of our most pressing challenges.

But let me say this: it is not a challenge we are powerless against. It is a call to action. A chance to transform lives. And it is a challenge that this government, under the leadership of the ruling party has already begun to address through land reform, urban development strategies, and national housing initiatives.

Yet, more remains to be done.

Honourable Members,

A home is not a luxury. It is a human right. It provides the emotional stability for children to study, the physical space for mothers to nurture their newborns, and the peace of mind for families to build a future. Without it, people are

These are gains we must recognize with pride. They are evidence of a government that has placed education at the core of its development agenda. And yet, even with this progress, we are reminded daily that the journey is not yet complete.

The presence of these challenges is not a sign of failure, it is a sign of potential still to be unlocked. It is a reminder that our educational mission is a living one. One that calls on us all to act with compassion, with urgency, and with a deep belief in the promise of every Namibian child.

Honourable Speaker

Honourable Members,

Education is not merely a government programme, it is a national imperative. It is the tool through which we equalize opportunity, reduce poverty, and ignite the dreams of future generations. It is the single most powerful investment we can make to shape a better, smarter, and more prosperous Namibia.

We must now Rally together to finish the work that has been started. Our task now is to build stronger classrooms, equip our learners with the tools they need, and empower our teachers to inspire.

Let us ensure that our presence in this House is a source of light and not just of debate. Let us be builders of hope, champions of change, and servants of all Namibians, no matter where they live or what their income is.

In the end, let our service be defined not by words, but by the impact we leave behind, a better Namibia, for all.

So I submit

I thank you.