



KEYNOTE STATEMENT

BY

HONOURABLE AGNES TJONGARERO

MINISTER OF SPORT, YOUTH AND NATIONAL SERVICE

DURING

THE OHANGWENA GOVERNOR'S CUP

DATE: 16 JUNE 2023

VENUE: EENHANA STADIUM

Director of Ceremonies Mr. Isak Hamatwi – Director of Education

Hon. Walde Natangwe Ndevashiya: Governor of the Great Ohangwena Region

His Worship Ommri-Onn Kavandje, Mayor of Eenhana Town

Rev. Laban Mwashekele

Hon. Councillors Presents

Members of the Diplomatic Corps;

Esteemed participants;

Esteemed invited guests;

Media Practitioners;

Ladies and gentlemen

Good morning,

It is indeed an honour to stand with you here this morning in celebrating the first of its kind Governor's Cup celebration of the Ohangwena Region. This is an initiative that will nurture the skills of our athletes as well as develop sporting talents whiles, keeping our young people from their habitual ill habits.

The Cup is being hosted at an exciting time where the sports fraternity has proven that it isn't just a hobby, but a sector that feeds families and brings people together. COVID-19 held us hostage for the past two years but it is such occasions that reminds us that through tough times we have prevailed as sporting sector. Hon. Ndevashiya, this is an initiative that will

assist with grassroots development in the region. It is therefore pleasing to see that Ohangwena has brought the Governor's Cup to the region, Hon. Governor, thank you for organizing this auspicious event.

Ladies and gentlemen,

As we make noteworthy strides in creating a platform for grassroots development, allow me to extend my heartfelt appreciation to the co-ordinators for organizing an event of this magnitude that's inclusive of all ensuring that we strive to level the playing field for all to participate. I am happy to see that Boxing has been included in the governor's cup, which is a first in the history of governors' cups. However, Hon. Governor allow me to submit a small request if you are able to kindly at the hosting of the next Cup, have a stall availed for our interim National Anti-doping Agency so as to educate our athletes on the dangers of doping and how it can ruin an athlete's life. Especially for those who wants to professionalize their talents.

Hon. Governor, I have taken note of the clear aim of the Governor's Cup which is to unearth raw talent for the Ohangwena Region. It is every governor's dream for his/her region to prevail victories at the U/20 youth games. I don't know whether its's possible but dear participants now that you are being scouted for the upcoming regional, national and international games especially the Namibian newspaper cup and the National Youth Games.

So esteemed participants, take this platform given to you to showcase your talents.

Ladies and gentlemen,

As stated earlier on, this is a celebratory moment as we celebrate the first of its kind Governors Cup for the Ohangwena Region. However, be reminded that COVID is still within our midst therefor take care of yourself while enjoying the festivities.

The Government of the Republic of Namibia, through the Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service, would also like to celebrate this moment, as a vindication of its efforts in giving every Namibian child out there a chance for sporting excellence. Much conjecture has been offered with regard to the role Government played, in all of this.

Ladies and Gentlemen;

I am pleased that inclusivity is what is being portrayed at this event, it is indeed commendable and I thank you all in advance for good sportsmanship that you will display at all times. To all participants whether you are taking part in soccer, netball, boxing or athletics go out there and give it your all. I always say if you fail the first time don't give up until you've gotten to the level that you've been dreaming off.

Ladies and gentlemen, allow me to recognize the contributions by the Hon. Governor and his esteemed team of organizers for the opportunity granted to numerous young people to showcase their talents. I am sure most young people enjoy this type of events as it gives them the platform to network.

To all stakeholders and sponsors involved in making this event a success, allow me to extend my heartfelt gratitude for your support towards the realization of the Governor's Cup for the Ohangwena Region. I will fail in my duties, if I do not recognise the efforts of all teachers and volunteers, who spend their afternoons on school sport grounds, imparting important skills to our budding future sport stars.

Ladies and Gentlemen;

In conclusion, while appreciating all participants, representing their constituencies, a small word of advice, make the best out of the opportunity granted to you, remember when you feel despondent at your performance remember that your journey is only starting.

Once again, be safe let's not forget that COVID-19 is back and still in our midst. With this few remarks, I hereby declare the Ohangwena Governor's Cup officially open.

I THANK YOU!