



KEYNOTE ADDRESS

BY

THE

HONOURABLE AGNES BASILLA TJONGARERO

SPORTS FEDERATION CALENDER YEAR OPENING

12 FEBRUARY 2022

Namibia Sports Commission – Board Members present

All Namibia Sports Commission Staff members present

Presidents & Secretary – Generals of National Federations

Representatives of Governmental institutions

Media houses

Ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning,

It is my distinguished honour to be here this morning. Seeing that I haven't met all of you, allow me to say may your year be prosperous. I'm honoured by this invitation as it comes at a very good time of the year and a step in the right direction as this type of gatherings are an opportunity to foster relationships within sport and at the same time strengthen the bond as one family.

It is for this reason that we look back on what happened last year in order for us to plan ahead as we prepare for major sporting events in the year 2022 and beyond. Under grim circumstances we have made it. Fighting the unseen enemy have been a challenge and I thank you all for adhering to all Covid regulations at all times even at times when we felt that it was unnecessary.

Last year we have experienced exuberant moments as our athletes brought so much joy and pride with their performance. Therefore allow me to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all our athletes whether its team or individual sports, thank you for putting Namibia back on the World Map.

You have indeed done an exceptional job and made us proud. Because of your performance somewhere, someone is asking or searching on google where

Namibia is and that is solely because of you. Keep up the good work. Ladies and gentlemen let's give our athletes a warm round of applause they really deserve it.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Dear sport administrators, let us do away with the culture of personalizing matters and work in harmony in order for us to deliver on our mandate. We have new sports enthusiastic leaders who joined the trade bringing brilliant ideas and we need to admit that gone are the days of doing the same things, we need to learn and accept new ways of dealing with matters related to sport.

I hereby humble request all federations to acknowledge the fact that only by their performance and visibly organized structures, Corporates in Namibia will join them in branding themselves, and in turn transforming their respective codes into semi-professional or professional sport codes. I can appeal to Corporates to join hands with Government in realizing sports in Namibia but if you as the federation don't foster unity and stop with the in house fighting no Corporate brand will want to be associated with you. Thus it is imperative that you foster national unity by doing away with discrimination in our sport codes so we can Harambee in one direction. Good sportsmanship shouldn't only be displayed on the field but also in our administration.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Finally, there are few plans in the pipeline which I can't confirm at the moment that will have very fruitful outcomes for the next four years. I hope that this commitment will not stay on paper but will be put to good use.

In conclusion, as you all know we have these upcoming games the Malawi Region 5 games, Common wealth games and other games at confederation level, let us take this time we have and go out in the regions and groom the new Christine, the

new Beatrice, new Hilaria, the new Shikongo, the new Nambala and the new Nyambe.

With that said I therefore wish all of you the best and productive sporting calendar year.

I thank you!