



KEYNOTE STATEMENT

BY

HONOURABLE AGNES TJONGARERO

MINISTER OF SPORT, YOUTH AND NATIONAL SERVICE

DURING THE GOVERNOR'S CUP IN SWAKOPMUND

16 April 2022

Vineta Stadium, Swakopmund

Hon Neville Andre Itope: Governor of the Great Erongo Region

Her Worship Kativa the Mayor of the Swakopmund

Hon Emma Kantema- Gaomas, Deputy Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service

Hon. Councillors Presents

Members of the Diplomatic Corps;

Esteemed participants;

Esteemed invited guests;

Media Practitioners;

Ladies and gentlemen

Good morning,

It is an honour to stand with you in celebration of the 7th Edition of the Governor's Cup, commemorated this year under the theme, "Setting the stage for Excellence".

The Cup hosted at an exciting time that the sports fraternity has proven that it isn't just a hobby, but a sector that feeds families and brings people together. The past two years were considerably tough on the sports sector due to the prevailing COVID-19 that held all activities hostage.

Thus, it is pleasing to see that sport events are picking up from being dormant to a level of actuality even if it isn't a hundred percent back. And I can't thank the general public and organizers for in advance for adhering to the regulations.

Ladies and gentlemen,

As we make noteworthy strides in bringing sport back, 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 Volleyball has been included in this year's governor cup, however Hon. Governor a small request at the next Cup, that a stall be availed for our interim National Anti-doping Agency so that our doping educators edify our athletes on doping and how it can ruin any athletes 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 Erongo Region. I'm reliably informed that the Hon. Governor wants to emerge victories at the all the upcoming U/20 youth games, yoh 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. Don't let the hours you spend go to waste, make the best out of the opportunities given to you on the field at all times give a hundred in your respective disciplines. Dis uit haal en wys se storie my mense maak seker amae.

Ladies and gentlemen,

As stated earlier on, this is a celebratory moment as we celebrate the break from lockdowns and the tension we live in even if it's just for a few minutes. However be reminded that COVID is still within our midst therefor take care of yourself while enjoying the festivities. It has been a long time since the country celebrated an event of this magnitude, please enjoy responsibly.

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;

The inclusivity this event portray is commendable and I thank .you all in advance for good sportsmanship that will be displayed at all times. To all participants whether you are taking part in soccer, netball or volleyball 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.

Here I need to pause and recognize the contributions by the Hon. Governor and his esteemed team of organizers for

bringing us together to enjoy what we later might talk about as the best weekend in the coast. I am sure most young people enjoy this type of events as it gives them the platform to network.

To the stakeholders and sponsors involved in making this event a huge success allow me to extend my heartfelt gratitude for your continued support towards the Governor's Cup.

In addition, 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, please do enjoy yourself, 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. **SO MAKE IT COUNT.**

Once again, be safe let's not forget that COVID-19 is still in our midst.

With this few remarks I hereby declare the Governor's Cup officially open.

I THANK YOU!