



**REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA**

**STATEMENT**

**BY**

**HON. TJEKERO TWEYA,**

**MINISTER OF INDUSTRIALISATION, TRADE AND SME  
DEVELOPEMNT**

**LAUNCH OF ONE NATION FUND BY ONE ECONOMY  
FOUNDATION,  
28 FEBRUARY 2018**

**SOWETO MARKET, KATUTURA – WINDHOEK, KHOMAS  
REGION**

**Director of Ceremony,  
Madam Geingos, First Lady of the Republic of Namibia,  
Uajorokisa Akwenye, CEO of the One Economy Foundation,  
Distinguished Members of the One Economy Foundation,  
Captains of industry,  
Distinguished business owners present here today,  
Members of the Media,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

**It gives me great pleasure to speak to you this afternoon at the Launch of One Nation Fund by the One Economy Foundation.**

**Madam Geingos, First Lady of the Republic of Namibia and the Chairperson of the Foundation, I am humbled by your invitation to attend this event. The One Economy Foundation speaks volume of an inclusive economy that reflects the demographic diversity of the Namibian people.**

**Putting the interests of the Namibian people FIRST is what excites us the most – Why? it's because we at the Ministry of Industrialisation, Trade and SME Development communicate the “Growth at Home” language – Growing at**

**Home first, is essential for development and remains our top priority.**

**The One Nation Fund program will focus on the provision of capital, free collateral loans and mentorship to the second economy participants. Hence offering practical solutions to aspiring business owners and equally providing a much needed support of a conducive platform to increase productive business in our economy.**

**Director of Ceremony,**

**The required business foundation has to be laid now in order to reap desired fruits in the future aimed at promoting business/ trade and sustainable development within Namibia and the International business fraternities.**

**The Ministry of Industrialisation, Trade and SME Development through the “Growth at Home” initiative, is committed to support industrial, trade, investment and business activities in the country.**

**Where business is involved, we at MITSMED, value and believe that MSMEs development is the catalyst for the development of the industrialisation base of any nation. It is in this connection that we recognize the critical role of Micro, Small and Medium – sized Enterprises in the socio-economic development and economic diversification of the country.**

**Director of Ceremony,**

**Last year 2017, MITSMED launched the MSME policy that was approved by cabinet and parliament. The major objectives of the policy are to foster the development of MSMEs by adopting international good practices for modernization and upgrading of technology.**

**This new introduced National Policy on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), is a framework to create an enabling regulatory environment in which the public and private sectors could develop and promote small enterprises, to address everyday challenges facing MSMEs in the areas of finance, marketing, technology, infrastructure, skills development and, enhance value addition, expand industrial**

**output, increasing growth rates and institutional support as the country marches toward Vision 2030.**

**Among many reasons to celebrate this event, the following objectives are of great importance to note:**

- Public Private Partnership (PPP) in Namibia, is not just a sounding “Gong” but a reality,**
- This event creates a platform to expedite the “Growth at Home” initiative, to**
- Enable the business community and members of the public to have easy access start-up capital.**

**MSMEs are often not backed by adequate collateral, as a result, only a few businesses use financial services while the majority of MSMEs business people rely on their own financial resources and contribution from family members and friends.**

**But now, with the help from One Economy Foundation, One Nation Fund will provide free collateral loans from today. This is a plausible practical solution to real problems on the ground encountered by our people.**

**Thank you One Economy Foundation for realising this very important and timely project on behalf of Government – we highly appreciate such great effort and innovation in the Namibia House.**

**Director of Ceremony,**

**The ministry continues to put in place various interventions to assist the MSMEs to acquire appropriate production technology in the form of equipment and machinery to improve their productivity and competitiveness. As nation we don't have a choice but to industrialize and to continue devising strategies to defend and sustain local and upcoming manufacturers, which is to grow at home**

**On our journey to industrialisation, the Government of the Republic of Namibia will continue to implement practical policies aimed at encouraging investment, industrialisation, easy of doing business and economic growth. We will continue to put measures in place to support the local micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) so that they can become more profitable and effectively participate in the country's mainstream economy.**

**This is why the Ministry of Industrialisation, Trade and SME Development through the “Growth at Home” initiative, is committed to render support to MSMEs country wide, with equipment, trainings and feasibility studies.**

**Director of Ceremony,**

**The Government of the Republic of Namibia, through the Ministry of Industrialisation, Trade and SME Development is committed to supporting MSMEs together with private sector in realising our country’s Vision 2030 and in fostering increased business for economic growth.**

**Director of Ceremony,**

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

**It is now my distinct honor to officially launch the One Nation Fund and wish you all successful business deals.**

**Remember one thing – No one should feel left out!!**

**Thank you once again for inviting me to be part of a large crowd of witnesses to this very important event.**

**I thank you!!!**