



**STATEMENT BY HONOURABLE
VERNA SINIMBO, DEPUTY MINISTER
OF THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIALISATION AND
TRADE, AT THE OCCASION OF THE NAMIBIAN
PAVILION TEAM AT THE DUBAI EXPO 2021**

09 August 2021,

BRB Building, NIPDB Offices

Director of ceremonies,

Ms. Nangula Uaandja, the Chief Executive Officer of Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board,

The management of Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board,

The entire preparatory committee for the upcoming Dubai Expo 2021,

All media personalities present here,

Distinguished guests,

All protocol observed,

Good Afternoon,

It is with great pleasure that I stand before you today, I must say, I am delighted to be in your midst, as the Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board sends of its first preparatory team to Dubai, ahead of the 2021 Dubai EXPO preparation.

I would like take this opportunity to thank the Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board management, all the preparatory committee members present here today, for your continuous effort, dedication and time invested in the preparation of the upcoming event. To accomplish this mission successfully your preparedness plays a vital role.

One of the objectives for Namibia to part-take in the Dubai EXPO is to create a platform for Namibia to promote the nations' investment opportunities in Dubai and internationally, permitting international media exposure to increase tourists traveling to Namibia. It is on this basis that I encourage the committee to continue working together with good cooperation and use every opportunity to push for progress in order for Namibia to achieve its objective with regards to the EXPO.

Despite the current challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, I am pleased to have observed that the team remains resilient with the spirit of perseverance as you continue to facilitate the preparation for the EXPO with hopes for breakthrough with international exposure.

The work you will do in the next few weeks will be critical, use these moments to seize opportunities that will build bridges for Namibia to allow Namibia to gain investment plans, business growth and development.

Dubai is an ideal place to market Namibia, as a country we continue to work towards achieving remarkable economic development, we have a daunting task to accomplish in Dubai which will be a responsibility to the rest of you while in Dubai.

You're going to be the face of Namibia, ambassadors of Namibia, represent the good image of our country, go and learn from other countries bring that knowledge back and put it into practice, and from the equally remarkable experience of the developed countries such as our host country Dubai and other leading countries.

For us to drive our industrialization process, Namibia must build a globally competitive environment, well-educated, highly skilled workforce for the future. And the future is already here. We cannot afford to waste any more time! And I think the Dubai Expo will open more doors for our country.

I believe that one of the strongest reason of Dubai Expo is working cooperatively with other countries to launch country platforms. The goal is to help countries prioritize their key development issues in a constructive way.

There is going to be many international groups, which might set up discussion groups on how to define, standardize, centralize and advice, but the strongest view of our country is that it's time to move forward, so I am kindly urging you to critically be vigilant to any benefiting exposure to our country.

I see the spirit of success in the dynamism of all of you which portray that this event is a collective cause. It is about Namibia's dream, its hopes and its aspirations to come to pass and I am so sure that with your hard work in the Expo, we will accomplish the mission to Industrialize Namibia, to Light up and power Namibia, to Feed Namibia, to Integrate Namibia, and to Improve the quality of life of the people of Namibia.

In conclusion I would like to thank the Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board for creating this opportunity to bid farewell to the trusted and innovative team to represent our country in Dubai.

I wish to in particular thank you, the preparatory team, who represent our country. Your usual support puts the wind behind our sails.

Wishing you a fruitful experience, may you be filled with all the strength and expertise as you continue on with these preparation journey. May it be a learning and exciting time in Dubai.

Make Namibia proud. Our Namibia, our joy, our pride.

I Thank you.