



**Republic of Namibia**

**SPEECH BY:**

**HON. VERNA SINIMBO**

**DEPUTY MINISTER OF INDUSTRIALISATION AND TRADE**

**NIDA ANNUAL REPORT CONFERENCE**

**NIDA HEAD OFFICE**

**24 FEBRUARY 2025**

**Director of Proceedings, Mr. Richwell Lukonga, NIDA  
Chief Executive Officer,**

**Hon. Iipumbu Shiimi, Minister of Finance and Public  
Enterprise,**

**Mr. Sebulon Kankondi, Chairperson of NIDA Board of  
Directors,**

**Mrs. Twapewa Kadhikwa, Deputy Chairperson of the  
NIDA Board of Directors,**

**Members of the NIDA Board of Directors,**

**Executive Directors and Deputy Directors,**

**Mr. Julius Nghikevali, Executive Consultant CFO Portfolio**

**Esteemed Guests,**

**Members of the Media,**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Good morning to you all,

Honorable Minister, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

As we all know, we are mourning our first president of the Republic of Namibia, His Excellency Dr. Sam Shafiishuna Nujoma, his leadership and unwavering dedication laid the foundation for Namibia's independence and development.

Dr. Nujoma, was instrumental in leading the nation from colonial rule to self-governance, advocating for freedom, unity, and economic emancipation. His steadfast commitment to nation-building remains an enduring legacy that continues to guide Namibia's development route.

As we reflect on his remarkable contributions, we are reminded of the importance of achieving economic self-sufficiency—a vision deeply embedded in Dr. Nujoma's aspirations for Namibia. It is in this spirit of progress and development that we gather today for this significant occasion.

**May we please rise as we observe a moment of silence.  
May the soul of our Tatekulu Sam Shafiishuna Nuyoma  
Rest in Eternal Peaxhe.**

The Ministry of Industrialization and Trade is proud to witness the Namibia Industrialization Development Agency (NIDA) presenting its annual report, the first in six years. This marks a significant moment in showcasing transparency to the public, as NIDA drives Namibia's industrialization agenda and supports our National Development Goals (NDGs).

This landmark occasion underlines NIDA's unwavering commitment to transparency, accountability, and excellence. In alignment with the Ministry's intent to create employment and eradicate poverty, NIDA has become a key partner in fulfilling our mission to be 'A leading agent for economic structural transformation'.

Established by the Government of the Republic of Namibia, NIDA plays a crucial role in driving industrial growth, creating employment opportunities, and building economic resilience.

Over the past six years, NIDA has delivered on its mandate by promoting economic diversification and fostering sustainable industries that uplifts all Namibians.

The Annual Report, which is the most important item on today's agenda, highlights the growth, impact, and reach of NIDA's efforts. This report will help us understand in greater

depth the work of the agency and how it is spearheading Namibia's industrialization agenda.

NIDA's contributions directly align with Vision 2030, the National Development Plans (NDPs), and the Harambee Prosperity Plan. Namibia's industrialization is crucial for achieving long-term economic stability and social prosperity.

NIDA has driven initiatives that reduce our reliance on raw material exports by adding value to our natural resources in agriculture, manufacturing, and mining. Projects such as the Kavango Cattle Ranch and the Naute Irrigation Project have been instrumental in advancing agro-processing and food security.

Despite these successes, challenges persist, such as a high unemployment rate of around 40% and a Gini coefficient of 59.10, reflecting income inequality. Additionally, reliance on imports for key industrial inputs remains a barrier. NIDA, in alignment with national policies, will continue addressing these challenges through projects that create jobs, reduce inequality, and build a sustainable industrial base.

This report highlights NIDA's transparency and results-based performance. The introduction of monitoring, evaluation, and reporting systems will ensure continued progress in line with national policy objectives.

The Ministry of Industrialization and Trade expresses its sincere appreciation for the launch of NIDA's annual report after six years. This important achievement shows NIDA's dedication to advancing the industrialization agenda.

**Industrialization and value addition are key to the agenda of our President-elect, Dr. Netumbo Nandi Ndaitwa. I urge you all to lend your support in realizing her vision, by working together with determination and a shared sense of purpose, we can contribute to the successful implementation of her plans for a stronger, more industrialized future.**

The Ministry hopes that NIDA continues to work tirelessly and collaborates effectively as a team to implement the necessary strategies, ensuring the successful realization of the nation's industrialization goals. Through hard work, unity, and a shared vision, the Ministry believes that together, the objectives of industrial growth and development can be fully achieved.

We will continue to foster joint venture partnerships and international collaborations that attract investment, drive innovation, and promote environmental sustainability.

In closing, let us celebrate NIDA's achievements and reaffirm our commitment to building a prosperous and resilient Namibia.

Thank You.

