



# **REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA**

**REMARKS BY HON. LUCIA IIPUMBU, MP  
MINISTER OF INDUSTRIALISATION AND TRADE**

**ON THE OCCASION OF THE EXPO 2020 DUBAI  
STAKEHOLDERS APPRECIATION DAY**

**Thursday, 08 DECEMBER MBER 2022,**

**VENUE: INVESTMENT HOUSE - WINDHOEK**

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**Director of Proceedings | Ms. Catherine Shipushu NIPDB Senior Manager | Marketing, Branding & Communications -**

**Ms. Nangula Uaandja | NIPDB Chairperson and CEO**

**Mr. Brent Eiseb | Namibia Diamond Trading Company CEO**

**NIPDB Senior Executives**

**Dubai EXPO Support Staff Members**

**Distinguished Invited Guests and Sponsors**

**Members of the Media**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

**Good Morning,**

**It is my utmost pleasure to be with you here today for the sole purpose of demonstrating our immense appreciation to our EXPO 2020 Dubai stakeholders who played a significant role to ensure Namibia's successful participation at one of the global grand investment and trade promotion event. It is also pleasing to see the overwhelming support and collaborations that Government and the Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board (NIPDB) in particular received from the private sector and it is indeed undoubtedly true, that success is best when shared. The event was a resounding success and these achievements were made possible by the support and guidance of various institutions and individuals.**

**The NIPDB spearheaded and facilitated Namibia's participation at the Expo 2020 Dubai from 1 October 2021 until 31 March 2022 in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). Allow me to thank the NIPDB for steering the ship and carrying the Namibian flag high during the entire period of the EXPO. The said platform played a crucial role in unlocking innovations, attracting investments and promoting trade opportunities for our country. Furthermore, the Expo 2020 Dubai served as a marketing initiative for Namibia.**

**The Namibia Pavilion was specifically focused on strategically promoting the country's efforts in priority key investments areas such as mining, sustainable tourism and renewable energy, amongst other key sectors. Namibia also used this platform as an opportunity to network and forge strategic alliances, international relationships and cooperation with**

participating countries. We also used this exclusive opportunity to showcase Namibia's potential at this coveted global platform. It was further gratifying to see Namibians and organisations rallying behind the events to ensure that Namibia was well represented and its participation is impactful.

The Expo 2020 Dubai's overall theme 'Connecting minds, creating the future' resonated well on the need to work together as stakeholders to inspire future generations and to develop partnerships across sectors to address the many needs of our fast changing world.

Namibia participation under the theme "*Preserving and Utilising our Natural Treasures for Future Generation*", highlighted the country's treasurable natural resources, such as energy, rich and diverse culture and many others aspects, which once utilised sustainably can generate long lasting benefits to the country. This theme also reflected on how to address emerging challenges and seize opportunities for innovation. The Namibian Pavilion welcomed visitors to discover the diversity, creativity, and openness of Namibia as a destination to invest and do business seamlessly.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

You will all agree with me that the EXPO was hosted during most difficult period of COVID – 19 pandemic and despite that, it was amazing to witness collaborative efforts from all angles to ensure that the event achieved its intended purpose. The unprecedented occurrences during the EXPO 2020 Dubai has also made us stronger and become more resilient to overcome various challenges while strengthening partnerships.

Director of Proceedings

I wish to reiterate the importance of public private collaborations as the private sector sets the fountain in terms of investments projects drive and business operations whilst the Namibian Government is committed to provide a facilitative and favourable environment for businesses and investments to thrive.

Therefore on behalf of H.E Dr. Hage Geingob, President of the Republic of Namibia, as well as the Namibian People, I would like to commend the UAE Government and the organisers of the Expo 2020 Dubai for availing Namibia a great opportunity to tell our stories and for the breakthrough support we received. I would also like to applaud the leadership of Ms. Nangula Uandjaa who was the Commissioner - General of the Namibia Pavilion and her team from different institutions for all the long hours put in to make sure Namibia is well displayed and represented at this global arena.

Let me further offer our ultimate gratitude to all our Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze sponsors, suppliers and staff whom provided the much needed support during the event. We fully acknowledge your contributions our key stakeholders, and we celebrate this milestone with you.

Let us therefore hold hands collectively and continue to drive the developmental agenda of our country in addressing various economic challenges facing us.

I thank you.