

# REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA



**STATEMENT BY HIS EXCELLENCY DR  
HIFIKEPUNYE POHAMBWA, PRESIDENT  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA AND  
COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE NAMIBIA  
DEFENCE FORCE, ON THE OCCASION OF THE  
COMMISSIONING COURSE 6/11 OF THE  
NAMIBIA DEFENCE FORCE**

**15 FEBRUARY 2013**

**OKAHANDJA  
OTJOZONJUPA REGION**

*\*Check Against Delivery*

**Director of Ceremonies,  
Honourable Nahas Angula, Minister of  
Defence,  
Honourable Samuel Nuuyoma, Governor of  
Otjozondjupa Region,  
Chief of the Defence Force, Lt. Gen. Epaphras  
Denga Ndaitwah,  
Brig. Gen. Frederick Siluzungila,  
Commandant, Military School,  
Generals and Senior Officers,  
Family Members and Friends of the Cadet  
Officers,  
Distinguished Invited Guests,  
Cadet Officers,  
Members of the Media,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

**It is a great pleasure for me to be here today at  
this important occasion, marking the pass out  
parade of the Regular Commissioning Course  
6/11 of the Namibia Defense Force.**

**Today, we are celebrating the success of individuals who have worked hard and completed the training which qualifies them to become Commissioned Officers in the Namibia Defence Force. This is a special day for each one of you and I, therefore, wish to congratulate you on your achievement. I am pleased that family members and friends of Officer Cadets are present here this morning to witness this event.**

**Director of Ceremonies,**

**The primary mission of the Namibia Defence Force, as enshrined in our Constitution, is to defend the territorial integrity and national interests of the Republic of Namibia.**

**It is in this context, that our Government believes that the NDF should be adequately equipped through the provision of equipment as well as the training of personnel.**

**This is necessary to ensure that our country remains securely protected against possible threats.**

**I am informed that this Course started in September 2011 with 55 students. With the exception of one, 54 Officer Cadets have successfully completed the training and will be commissioned here today.**

**These Officer Cadets received training in basic soldiering skills, conventional warfare, low intensity operations, leadership and administration. The aim is to mould and develop trainees into knowledgeable military officers capable of becoming effective leaders within the Namibia Defence Force.**

**Director of Ceremonies,**

**I am pleased to note that among the 54 Cadet Officers who will be commissioned here today, 15 are women. This is in line with our Government's policy to promote gender inclusiveness.**

**I would, therefore, like to encourage young Namibian women who aspire to join the Namibia Defence Force, as well as those who are already in the force, to work hard so that they can advance through the ranks to assume command responsibilities.**

**The training was also aimed at fostering cooperation and dedication within the Force. I am confident that with the completion of your training, you are now equipped with the skills you require to be able to overcome the many challenges you will encounter as Officers of the Namibia Defence Force. Upon your commissioning and deployment to your respective areas of operation, I urge you to fully apply the knowledge and skills that you have acquired during your training over the past 18 months.**

**As a nation, we are proud to have a professional defence force that has distinguished itself regionally and internationally through the hard work of its members.**

**I take this opportunity to commend the Chief of the Defence Force, Lt General Epafra Denga Ndaitwah, the Commandant of the Military School, Brigadier General Frederick Siluzungila and the Instructors for their dedication to the empowerment of our soldiers through skills development and training. Your commitment and dedication has contributed to the building of a stronger Namibia Defence Force.**

**I encourage you to continue working hard to ensure a competent, professional, disciplined and patriotic Namibia Defence Force.**

**Once again, I congratulate all the cadets who will be commissioned here today.**

**I thank you.**