

# REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA



## REMARKS

BY

**HIS EXCELLENCY DR HAGE G. GEINGOB**  
**PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA**

AT

**THE OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF THE 25<sup>TH</sup>**  
**INDEPENDENCE STAMP AND THAT OF THE**  
**3<sup>RD</sup> PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF**  
**NAMIBIA**

**MARCH 23, 2015**

**STATE HOUSE, WINDHOEK**

**Director of Ceremonies,**

**Comrade Dr. Nickey Iyambo - the Vice**

**President of the Republic of Namibia,**

**Comrade Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila - the**

**Prime Minister of the Republic of Namibia,**

**Comrade Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah - the**

**Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of**

**Namibia,**

**Honorable Frans Kapofi - Minister of**

**Presidential Affairs,**

**Honorable Tjekero Tweya - Minister of**

**Information, Communications and Technology,**

**Dr. Kalumbi Shangula - Chairman of the**

**NAMPOST Board of Directors,**

**Members of the NAMPOST Board of Directors,**

**Mr. Festus Hangula, CEO of NAMPOST,  
Senior Management and Staff of NAMPOST,  
Invited Guests,  
Members of the Media,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

**It gives me great pleasure to be here today to  
officiate at the occasion of the 25<sup>th</sup>  
Independence Stamp Launch.**

**I am sure many of you are still recovering  
physically and emotionally following the Silver  
Jubilee celebrations that took place this  
Saturday where *Yours Truly* was sworn in as  
the third President of the Republic of Namibia.**

**I have often said that peace cannot be taken for granted. There are not many countries in the world who can claim to have experienced 25 years of peace, stability and unity after having attained independence. Independence means many things:**

- It means freedom from oppression and discrimination.**
- It means freedom from external control.**
- It means equality, liberty and justice for all.**
- It gives us the right to develop on our own terms and pursue prosperity for all our people.**

- **Above everything else, independence represents the freedom to choose our own paths in life.**

**In the case of a nation, this translates as the freedom to choose our leaders.**

**We have the freedom to choose as leaders, individuals whose principles and ideals exemplify the spirit of Namibian bravery, fortitude and wisdom. Last year, we celebrated the announcement of the election results after we successfully hosted our 6<sup>th</sup> free, fair and peaceful democratic elections during the month of November.**

Ladies and gentlemen,

Thomas Merton once said and I quote, “*Peace demands the most heroic labor and the most difficult sacrifice.*

*It demands greater heroism than war. It demands greater fidelity to the truth and a much more perfect purity of conscience.*” The

peace we enjoy today and which we take great pride in celebrating has come at a cost and the currency has often been human blood. Many compatriots crossed rivers of blood, and fell doing so, in order for us to stand here today and celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> year of independence by immortalising this historic moment through these beautiful postal stamps.

**As Namibia's official postal services agency, NAMPOST performs a vital function by delivering postal items around the country and across the world. The internal need for a good postal service is a high priority. A countrywide network of post offices provides government with many points of contact with its people for implementing administrative programs in such fields as social security, taxation, and public information.**

**When its operation is properly developed, the post office may also become one of the principal employers in a country; it may help to promote economic growth through its need for buildings, vehicles, and equipment; and it has the potential to become a major user of transport services.**

**Another important function that NAMPOST carries out is the issuing of stamps that are used on letters and parcels which traverse the entire globe, capturing a piece of Namibian culture and natural beauty and provoking the imaginations of the recipients.**

**I therefore commend, NAMPOST for this service as well as the beautiful stamps they continue to produce.**

**Let us not forget, that many of our stamps never get used on postal articles, but rather become the prized possessions of a number of stamp collecting aficionados.**

**I remember reading an article in the Namibia Economist which said that Namibia's postage stamps are among the most beautiful in the world. They have won various prizes in international competitions and portray the country in its many fascinating facets: plant and animal life, attractions and population**

**groups, public figures, achievements and history.**

**It is therefore fitting, that this moment in our short but proud history, will be captured and immortalised through the issuing of these special stamps which will commemorate our 25<sup>th</sup> Independence Anniversary.**

**During my Presidential Campaign, many of you saw the now iconic poster, depicting the Founding President Comrade Sam Nujoma, our second President, Comrade Hifikepunye Pohamba and Yours Truly, NOW President of Namibia. Above our pictures read, “*The***

***Legacy Continues***". This is a legacy of peace, stability and prosperity.

I am therefore, pleased that NAMPOST has continued this theme by depicting the three of us as a symbol of Namibian Independence and democracy on this stamp issue. Soon, as these stamps find their way around all corners of our world, this iconic image of the Namibian leadership legacy will etch itself into the memory of many of the world's citizens.

With these few words, it gives me great pleasure to officially launch this stamp issue, knowing that as a commemoration of

**Namibia's independence and democracy, it holds its own special place amongst the stamp issues that NAMPOST releases each year.**

**Enjoy the Launch.**

**I THANK YOU.**