



Republic of Namibia

STATEMENT

BY

SOPHIA SHANINGWA, MP

MINISTER OF URBAN AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

ON THE OCCASION OF THE

SHIPI FM NETWORK DINNER

SATURDAY, 11 NOVEMBER 2017

ONDANGWA TRADE FAIR CENTRE

- **Director of proceedings;**
- **Honorable Clemens Kashuupulwa, Regional Governor of Oshana Region;**
- **Honorable Hannu Kapenda, Chairperson of Oshana Regional Council;**
- **Honorable Elia Irimari, Regional Councilor of Ondangwa Urban Constituency;**
- **Your Worship Paavo Amwele, Mayor of Ondangwa Town and other Mayors of various Towns present here today;**
- **Honorable Regional and Local Authorities Councilors;**
- **Comrade Martin Shipanga, Executive Director of Shipanga Holdings and your team;**
- **Esteemed business people;**
- **Traditional Leaders present here today;**
- **Reverend Kondjashili Hiliwa and other Spiritual Leaders present;**
- **Distinguished invited guests;**
- **Members of the Media;**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen;**

I am pleased to be here today as a special invited guest at this Networking Dinner, a first of its kind in Ondangwa Town and Oshana Region. Indeed this is an initiative of the Executive Director of Shipanga Holdings, a conglomerate which includes Shipi FM.

I am informed that Shipi FM as a Community Broadcasting Radio Station focuses on promoting businesses especially small and medium sized enterprises, job creation and fighting poverty amongst various community activities. These articulations speak to the core of service delivery and upliftment of our people towards prosperity. It is therefore commendable that our private sector complements government efforts to positively contribute to the living standards of our people.

The theme for this event is – *Achieve Your Dreams with Shipi Fm*. I must mention that this powerful theme is carefully selected and it is tempting me to say – Achieve your Dreams with Shipi Fm, together with the Government of the Republic of Namibia, which I am representing as the Minister responsible for Urban and Rural Development.

Director of proceedings;

Ladies and Gentlemen;

The Ministry of Urban and Rural Development through the Regional and Local Authorities is responsible for the provision of the basic, yet fundamental services to our people, including the provision of urban serviced land (both business and residential erven), access to water, electricity, road infrastructure and other services in urban set ups. It is therefore the mandate of the Ministry of Urban and Rural Development to coordinate development at subnational levels of government, hence creating the much needed enabling environment for socio-economic development.

The Ministry of Urban and Rural development has therefore done and will continue to do a lot to ensure the development of our Urban and Rural areas. The challenge is that most of these achievements, progress and developments are not communicated and this is the role I want to encourage Shipi FM to play to keep our people informed as well as to serve as the feedback channel to the Ministry.

To foster development, it is important to note that Central Government heavily relies on the other tiers of Government which are much closer to the citizenry.

Director of proceedings;

The importance of Networking or getting together like this evening is something I wish to encourage so that we can collectively harness our energies for the common good of our people. To bring political leaders, community leaders and business under one roof is something I wish to encourage, because each stakeholder has a critical role to play to uplift the living standard of our people.

Director of Ceremonies;

Ladies and Gentlemen;

This event is not for long political statements. However, it is a platform for networking and this is what we are going to do. I therefore wish to thank Comrade Martin Shipanga and your team for organizing this event, bringing various stakeholders under one roof, for the love of our country and her people. I also wish to thank Shipi FM for the excellent work you are doing in our community and I would like to request all stakeholders to join hands with Shipi FM to fight poverty, create job opportunities & promote businesses. Remember its your own Station! It is in fact true that you

**can achieve your dreams with Shipi FM. With these remarks,
I wish you a pleasant evening and let us network. I thank
you!**