



Republic of Namibia

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

BY HONOURABLE DR. PEYA MUSHELENGA, MP

MINISTER OF URBAN AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

OF NAMIBIA

ON THE OCCASION OF THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF

THE WILBARD HAINDONGO OPEN MARKET.

22 JUNE 2018

ONGWEDIVA, NAMIBIA

Oshana Regional Governor, Honourable Clemens Kashiupulwa;

Her Worship, the Mayor of Ongwediva, Honourable Angelina Angula;

Chairperson of Ongwediva Open Market Committee, Honourable Ulalia Nghilongwa;

Captains of Industries present;

Distinguished Councillors and esteemed Community leaders;

The Haindongo Family;

The business Community, especially our vendors;

Members of the Media;

Ladies and Gentlemen

It is a great pleasure and honour for me to address you at this very important occasion. An occasion that not only signifies Government's commitment to bringing services closer to the people but it also demonstrates how a community and their leaders could work together in addressing socio-economic challenges in their community in particular and our Country in general.

The idea to establish this market was birthed by the community members themselves. In 2014, community members of Efidilomulunga approached the Ongwediva Town Council, expressing their need for a trading space where they could trade freely without having to worry about eviction. They were simply tired of selling in unauthorised spaces and wanted a designated legal trading space.

To answer the reasonable outcry from their community, the Ongwediva Town Council approached the Local Economic Development Agency (LEDA) at the Ministry of Urban and Rural Development for financial assistance to construct a shade structure that could accommodate traders and an enabling trading environment.

The Local Economic Development Agency assisted the Ongwediva Town Council with the cost of construction of the Open Market and the security fence around the market. Additionally, the Ongwediva Town Council committed to the construction of the ablution facility at the market.

The Wilbard Haindongo Open Market was created to provide a conducive environment to our vendors especially those who find themselves trading in the

streets with hygiene standard compromised. This open market is equipped with toilet facility and provision for electricity which will become available the moment the area is electrified.

The market has a capacity to accommodate 20 vendors at the moment; however, it is designed to accommodate more vendors in future. The current vendors allocated to the market are traders in fruits and vegetables, crafts and hand made products, kapana, raw meat, Herbal products, oshikundu, dried agricultural products (mahangu flour, omavanda, etc).

Ladies an

The reason we are gathered here today on the occasion of the Official opening of the Mr. Wilbard Haindongo Open Market. This market is named after 98 years old veteran to honour him for the role that he and his wife Meekulu Anna Noodi played during the liberation struggle of Namibia.

Mrs. Anna Noodi was a trained nurse and has provided assistance to the PLAN Combatants by treating the injured Plan Combatants and providing them with the necessary nursing aid. The struggle icon Eliaser

Tuhandeleni Kahumba Kandola who was a relative to Ms. Anna Noodi found shelter at the Haindongo's homestead during the struggle.

Mr. Haindongo was also a community activist who preached in the Ongwediva Elcin Church and other places.

It is therefore my humble pleasure and honour to honour a living legend.

I commend the Community of Efidilomulunga for being proactive law abiding citizens who decided to engage their leaders and give constructive ideas on how to address the problems in their communities.

Furthermore, I applaud the Ongwediva Town Council for engaging their community members and adapting a consultative approach to problem solving.

I urge other communities who have resolved to take the laws into their own hands to refrain from doing so, and rather approach their leaders, with tangible proposals to enable them to collectively resolve issues facing them.

To the esteemed vendors, I urge you:

- To take a good care of this facility to ensure that benefits you and the future generations.**

- **To embrace hygiene to halt the spread of food borne diseases**
- **To take advantage of these kinds of opportunities created by the Government of the Republic of Namibia, and capitalize to enable you to lead their communities out of poverty.**

Director of Ceremonies

The Wilbard Haindongo Open Market will create a platform to promote the consumption of local products. I therefore invite everybody to support our small and medium businesses that are operating here to boost our local economy.

I now have the singular honour to declare the Wilbard Haindongo Open Market Officially opened.

I Thank You.