



STATEMENT BY HIS EXCELLENCY DR SAM NUJOMA, FOUNDING  
PRESIDENT AND FATHER OF THE NAMIBIAN NATION, IN HIS  
CAPACITY AS THE PATRON OF THE NAMIBIA ENGINEERING WEEK,  
ON THE OCCASION OF THE NAMIBIA ENGINEERING WEEK  
FUNDRAISING GALA DINNER.

UNDER THE THEME **“INNOVATION AND EXCELLENCE:  
REINVENTING OUR FUTURE”**.

SATURDAY, 11<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2018

BENNIES ENTERTAINMENT PARK

ONGWEDIVA

OSHANA REGION

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Founder: H.E. Dr Sam Nujoma  
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(Reg No 8208)

Directors of Proceedings;  
Honourable Clemence Kashuupulwa, Governor of Oshana Region;  
Your Worship, Councilor Angelina Angula, the Mayor of the Town of Ongwediva and other Mayors present;  
Honourable Regional and Local Authorities Councilors present;  
Distinguished Mrs Thea Visser, The Founding Editor of Engineering Namibia's Magazine;  
Distinguished Mr. Dennis Maxwell, Director of Denchi Consulting Engineers;  
Distinguished Mr. Riaan Burger, Chief Executive Officer of NAMDEB;  
Distinguished Ms Hilda Nathanael, Namibian Society of Engineers Treasurer;  
Distinguished Members of the Namibian Society of Engineers;  
Distinguished Captains of Industry present;  
Esteemed Traditional Authorities and Religious Leaders present;  
Distinguished Invited Guests;  
Members of the Media;  
Ladies and Gentlemen:

In my capacity as the Patron of the Namibia Engineering Week and the Namibia Engineering Week Fundraising Gala Dinner, I am delighted to address one of the most important and inspiring events of the year, here in the beautiful town of Ongwediva.

This event started on a very high note in Windhoek on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> of August at the Windhoek Showground, under the theme **“Innovation and Excellence: Reinventing Our Future”**.

Indeed, the Namibia Engineering Week has been a unique celebration where, for the very first time, the engineering fraternity in Namibia came together and launched a brilliant platform where ideas can be formulated and nurtured to promote innovation and the exchange of knowledge in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and other allied disciplines.

The Engineering Week is an idea born of the Namibian Society of Engineers in February, when the association approached my office to discuss how important this would be for the country.

Today, it is an event that has brought the industry and the nation together to highlight the country's achievements in engineering education and promote innovation and the application of technical skills among Namibia's young engineers.

Throughout this whole week, graduates and professionals alike have had the opportunity to inspire and be inspired to become the best engineers they can be. In other words, Programs such as these display our nation at its best and inspire future generations to want to build a better Namibia.

Directors of Proceedings;

The Namibian Society of Engineers has the potential to change the face of our country by strengthening our industry and vigorously pursuing ideas that can turn Namibia into a world-class centre for engineering excellence.

This will enable our people to invent and innovate and industries will be enabled to design, manufacture and export. In addition, good jobs will be created and safeguarded; while economic growth and industrialization will be brought within reach.

Since its establishment in 2014, the Namibian Society of Engineers has grown into a strong association whose core focus includes promoting the engineering profession countrywide,

encouraging and assisting Namibian learners who wish to study engineering and supporting and nurturing engineering students to succeed.

Further, the Namibian Society of Engineers has, among other things, been the leading guide in the efforts to re-work and modernize the piece of legislation that governs the engineering fraternity – the Engineering Professions Act.

Because of the association's leadership in this process, Namibia is now positioned to become a nation where the main document that regulates the technical industry is on par with the rest of the world and responds perfectly to the needs of modern day Namibia.

Directors of Proceedings;

I am reliably informed that the upcoming plans of the association include the first ever Namibia Engineering Excellence Awards. These are aimed at recognizing, encouraging and consolidating excellence in engineering.

The Excellence Award are also aimed at the establishment of a centre for mentorship and applied knowledge to facilitate skills transfer and contribute to job creation. In addition, the awards are aimed at the creation of a fund that supports innovative minds in engineering, science and mathematics education in Namibia.

I therefore hereby invite the Captains of industry and all stakeholders all over Namibia, to contribute as much as you can to these important national projects.

Let us together, re-invent the future of Namibia. As I always say, *a people united, striving to achieve a common good for all the members of the society, will always emerge victorious!*

I thank you

Bon appetite!