



**STATEMENT BY HIS EXCELLENCY
DR. SAM NUJOMA, FOUNDING PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
NAMIBIA AND FATHER OF THE NAMIBIAN NATION, ON THE
OCCASION OF THE AWARD OF HONORARY DOCTORAL
DEGREES BY THE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF
MANAGEMENT (IUM)**

5TH AUGUST 2016

IUM DORADO PARK CAMPUS

WINDHOEK

***Check Against Delivery**

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Hon. Dr. Albert Kawana, Hon. Erkki Nghimtina, Ms. Febronia Nelago Shapaka
(Reg No 8208)

Members of the Media;
Ladies and Gentlemen:

Good Morning:

I am delighted to be part of another significant milestone of IUM, namely, the recognition of three (3) outstanding entrepreneurs in Namibia as part of the university's 12th Graduation ceremony in 2016.

Allow me therefore, first and foremost, to thank the Governing Council of IUM for the invitation and for the opportunity provided to me to be part and parcel of this great event.

One of the salient features of my socio-economic development life in Namibia is my close association and contribution to the establishment, and development of The International University of Management (IUM) which I inaugurated in 2002.

As a milestone of the higher education system of Namibia, today IUM is following international practice in the award of honorary doctorates.

Even before 2002, when the Founder of IUM, Dr. Namwandi wanted to initiate and establish a higher education institution in the mid-1990s, I had the opportunity to be associated with him on how to establish, grow, and expand such a higher learning institution.

Dr. Namwandi listened to me, and with uttermost commitment and dedication, he proved to the Namibian nation and the rest of the world that he was a visionary who did not just had a day dream, but turned it into reality. As a result, we now see IUM in our midst scaling the higher education landscape in Namibia with certainty and drive.

I am, in view of the above background, thus extremely happy and honoured to be invited by IUM Governing Council for the occasion of the conferment of Awards to three (3) outstanding Namibian entrepreneurs.

I am told that the persons to be honoured today are not the first persons to be honoured as such by IUM. I understand that there have been other illustrious people before. In this regard, in awarding honorary doctoral degrees, IUM, in its humble way, is joining a long and a well-established tradition that goes back to the Middle-Ages.

Indeed, The University of Oxford is on record as the first university to award an honorary doctorate in the world in the late fourteen-seventies (1470s).

An honorary degree, we need to note, is normally awarded to a person who has made commendable contribution to humanity and society as a whole. The recognition is even greater if, as in some of our cases today, that person especially indeed rose from a very humble background to a distinguished state or position.

Director of Ceremonies;

I recall that about 4 years ago, in 2012, when I was invited to the celebration of the 10th Anniversary of The International University of Management, there was the administrative block as the only new building on the Dorado Park Campus. But the situation has gradually

changed since then. As a result, we can see huge building blocks such as Lecture Halls, Administrative Block and the female student's hostel.

These new buildings demonstrate only a part of the success and achievement of IUM which has six (6) campuses spreading from Walvis Bay and Swakopmund in the Erongo Region to Nkurenkuru in the Kavango West Region, and Ongwediva in Oshana Region respectively.

It is thus my conviction that IUM possesses appropriate facilities and human resources to deliver effective and efficient higher education programmes in the country, the SADC Region and the entire African continent as well as the rest of the world.

I must also state here for the record that the establishment of Nkurenkuru campus in the Kavango West Region is a welcome development. I believe the move is history in the making because with limited resources, IUM became the first higher education institution to establish itself in that region.

IUM will thus provide the expected service delivery not only to the Kavango West and East Regions but also to other regions and neighbouring countries; bravo IUM for your patriotism and courage to venture into an untapped market.

I am particularly pleased that I had been part of those who assisted and advised IUM and that our efforts were not in vain as today the nation is reaping the fruits of what was planted in 1994.

Director of Ceremonies;

Allow me now to focus on what brought us here today. Certainly, getting together this morning is to recognise value and appreciate three (3) outstanding Namibian entrepreneurs namely; Mr. Erastus Chicco Shapumba, Mr. Banda Shilimela and Mrs Twapewa Kadhikwa (Pewa), who have helped to change the lives of other people and the country and, in so doing, have made a lasting mark and difference.

As a nation, we should recognise, value and appreciate what they have contributed thus far to the nation and the wider community.

It is just natural that the three (3) graduands to be honoured here today are accorded permanent status as members of the IUM family, and as such, become part of the Global Hub for Management Science and Information Technology.

I must therefore, once again, thank the IUM Council, for their kind invitation for me to be part of this great event which will enter in the annals of the history of IUM.

Before I leave the podium, let me also congratulate the recipients for their well-deserved recognition. I sincerely wish Mr. Erastus Chicco Shapumba, Mr. Banda Shilimela and Mrs Twapewa Kadhikwa (Pewa) all the best and hope too that they will continue to contribute to the socio-economic development of our country and its people.

Long live IUM!

Long live the Republic of Namibia!

I Thank You!