



TRIBUTE BY HIS EXCELLENCY, DR. SAM NUJOMA,
FOUNDING PRESIDENT AND FATHER OF THE
NAMIBIAN NATION, ON THE OCCASION OF THE
STATE MEMORIAL SERVICE IN HONOUR OF THE
LATE AMBASSADOR NORA SCHIMMING-CHASE

16 MARCH 2018

PARLIAMENT GARDENS

KHOMAS REGION

*Check Against Delivery

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(Reg No 8208)

Directors of Proceedings;

The children and the entire bereaved family of the Late Ambassador Nora Schimming-Chase;
Your Excellency Dr. Hage Geingob, President of the Republic of Namibia and Madam
Monica Geingos, First Lady;

Your Excellency Dr. Hifikepunye Pohamba, Former President of the Republic of Namibia
and Madam Penexupifo Pohamba, Former First Lady;

Your Excellency Nangolo Mbumba, Vice-President of the Republic of Namibia and Madam
Sustjie Mbumba;

Right Honourable Dr. Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila, Prime Minister and Comrade Tobias
Amadhila;

Honourable Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of International
Relations and Cooperation and Retired Lieutenant General Ndaitwah;

Honourable Professor Peter Katjavivi, Speaker of the National Assembly and Madam Jane
Katjavivi;

Honourable Margaret Mensah-Williams, Chairperson of the National Council and Mr.
Williams;

Honourable Peter Shivute, Chief Justice and Madam Judge Shivute;

Honourable Ministers and Deputy Ministers present;

Honourable Comrade Sophia Shaningwa, Secretary General of SWAPO Party;

Honourable McHenry Venaani, Leader of the Official Opposition;

Honourable Members of Parliament;

Members of Diplomatic Corps;

Distinguished Service Chiefs;

Honourable Governor of Khomas Region and all Governors Present;

Your Worship the Mayor of the City of Windhoek;

Esteemed Traditional and Community Leaders;

Distinguished Veterans of the National Liberation Struggle;

Members of the Media;

Fellow Mourners:

We are gathered here to pay tribute to the late Madam Ambassador Nora Schimming-Chase,
a brave nationalist and seasoned diplomat that Namibia has produced.

One of the strong characters of the Late Madam Ambassador Schimming-Chase was that she
was loyal to her motherland Namibia. I was therefore saddened to learn of the passing on of
one of our veteran politicians and a skilled diplomat who shared her skills, experiences and
wisdom with other people wherever and whenever she felt needed.

She was indeed one of the fearless Namibian Women who were determined to fight against
colonial oppression and injustices perpetrated against our people from the late fifties (1950s)
into the sixties (1960s).

All those who knew the Late Madam Ambassador Schimming-Chase or have worked with
her either in Parliament or as a diplomat have described the services she has rendered to our
country as exceptional and I can attest to this fact.

In this regard, she played a pivotal role in shaping Namibian politics and was instrumental in
establishing our diplomatic missions abroad immediately after Namibia's Independence
when, in a spirit of Reconciliation and Nation Building, I appointed her as our first
ambassador to Germany and France.

As a Member of Parliament she was diligent in her job and was always free to speak her mind. Similarly, she was determined to fight for the upliftment of the rights of others, especially women.

Against this background, it is appropriate to say that the late Ambassador Nora Schimming-Chase political activism did make a difference before and after independence.

Now that she has completed her journey and fulfilled her task, I urge the current and future generations of Namibia to emulate her exemplary deeds.

I personally recognise her legendary and pioneering deeds as well as her political and diplomatic contributions to Namibia before and after independence.

For this reason, I thank the Government of the Republic of Namibia, under the leadership of His Excellency Comrade Dr. Hage Geingob, for conferring upon her the honour of a State Funeral as she played an active role in consolidating our democracy and building a prosperous Namibia and as such deserves a befitting official send off.

As we bid her farewell, let us continue to unite all our people in the fight for economic emancipation in order to eradicate poverty, hunger and diseases from our country.

On behalf of the Nujoma Family and indeed on my own behalf, I extend our sincere condolences and heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved family and friends on the loss of the Late Ambassador Nora Schimming-Chase.

May Her Soul Rest In Eternal Peace!