



Republic of Namibia

OPENING ADDRESS

**ON THE OCCASION OF THE VISIT OF THE GERMAN MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND
RESEARCH, HONOURABLE BETTINA STARK – WATZINGER TO NAMIBIA**

BY

**HON OBETH MBUIPAHA KANDJOZE
DIRECTOR GENERAL
OF NATIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION AND
CHAIRPERSON OF THE NAMIBIAN GREEN HYDROGEN COUNCIL**

**VENUE:
State House**

10h00, March 29th, 2023

WINDHOEK, KHOMAS REGION

- **Director of Ceremony, Mr. James Mnyupe.**
- **His Excellency, Dr. Hage Geingob, President of the Republic of Namibia.**
- **Cabinet Members present.**
- **Hon. Bettina Stark – Watzinger, Minister of Education and Research of the Federal Republic of Germany.**
- **All protocol as observed.**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

1. I am distinctly honoured to address you on important highlights on Namibia’s green hydrogen initiative and the Namibian Government’s vision for an energy transition that unites economic development and climate neutrality goals.
2. Namibia’s green hydrogen ambition is premised on the second Harambee Prosperity Plan which is a fast-tracked Action Plan Towards Economic Recovery and Inclusive Growth in which Namibia aspires to provide growth stimuli to its economic sectors, responding to socioeconomic challenges such as income inequality, as well as exploring green growth pathways for Namibia, with the singular aim to become the first carbon – neutral African nation.
3. In actualising that ambition, Namibia has cast hand to wheel to implement the national green hydrogen and green ammonia strategies, while harnessing its abundant renewable energy resources such as solar, wind, and hydro for renewable power production for domestic use and regionally through the Southern Africa Power Pool.
4. In demonstrating astute leadership and effective governance, His Excellency, President Dr. Hage Geingob, in July 2021, constituted an eight member Green Hydrogen Council chaired by the National Planning Commission with the Ministry of Mines and Energy; Bank of Namibia; Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism; Ministry of Agriculture, Water, and Land Reform;; the Namibian Investment Promotion and Development Board, and, of course, the additional member being the Presidential Economic Advisor and Green Hydrogen Commissioner, Mr. James Mnyupe, as Council members tasked with overseeing the development of the Green Hydrogen Opportunity.
5. Nine proposals from six global, regional, and local players were received and HYPHEN Energy was selected as the Preferred Bidder to develop the two land parcels that were on offer back then. HYPHEN submitted a comprehensive offer to conduct feasibility studies and if those prove viable, to develop a two – phase multi – billion - dollar project with the first phase of this project expected to enter

production in 2026. That phase will see the creation of two gigawatts of renewable electricity generation capacity to produce green hydrogen for conversion into green ammonia, at an estimated capital cost of US\$4.4 billion or the equivalent of N\$80.1 billion.

6. Further expansion phases in the late 2020s will expand combined renewable generation capacity to five gigawatts and three gigawatts respectively of electrolyser capacity, increasing the combined total investment to US\$9.4 billion (equivalent to N\$171 billion) and green hydrogen production to 300,000 tons. Through the strategic deployment of Research & Development, targeted stimulative investment and pilot projects, three other hydrogen valleys may emerge over time. These will be subject to the Namibian Synthetic Fuels Strategy to be developed by the Ministry of Mines and Energy.
7. As I close, let me highlight that all of these efforts are geared towards exploiting the green hydrogen and green ammonia opportunity in a two-pronged manner that empowers Namibia to play its role as a global citizen as the world economy works to transition to net zero emissions.
8. The process is two – pronged because in the same renewable energy opportunity, Namibia's vast renewable resources offer a once in a generation opportunity to jump start Namibia's industrialization, achieve energy security and increased prosperity for its citizens as envisioned under the Harambee Prosperity Plan – II and our country's long – term developmental framework, Vision 2030.
9. I trust therefore, Your Excellency, that the above synopsis has enlightened us all on Namibia's green hydrogen ambition and vision.
10. I thank you.