



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

BY

**DR. RICHARD NCHABI KAMWI, MP
HON. MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES**

DURING THE

**HANDOVER OF FUNDS FOR THE BANK WINDHOEK
CANCER APPLE PROJECT**

28 MAY 2008

WINDHOEK

**Programme Director & Managing Director of Bank
Windhoek, James Hill,**

**Director of the Cancer Association of Namibia,
Reinette Koegelenberg,**

President of the Namibian Chefs Association, Terry Jenkinson,

Members of the media,

Ladies and gentlemen,

It is indeed a great privilege and honour for me to join you at the official hand-over of the funds that were raised through the Bank Windhoek Cancer Apple Project in aid of the Cancer Association of Namibia. I have been following the remarkable efforts of the Management of Bank Windhoek in the fight against cancer in Namibia with keen interest. Indeed, your efforts which have become an annual event are truly commendable, and your cause is worthy.

The Cancer Association, as a true partner of the Ministry of Health and Social Services, plays a tremendous role in fighting cancer through research, supporting patients with hospital aids, providing advice to those that are affected, and creating continuous awareness about the illness. I wish to thank the Director and management of the Cancer Association for the immense work that you are doing in, and for, the community.

In this regard, the support of the Bank Windhoek Cancer Apple project has played an important role in assisting the Cancer Association of Namibia. In particular, the Project assists with the daunting task of creating awareness about cancer and of raising and availing the necessary funds for the efficient and effective work by the Cancer Association.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Cancer remains one of the major public health challenges affecting all age groups irrespective of colour, wealth or race. For this reason, it is important that from an early age, fellow Namibians must follow a balanced diet, avoid smoking and reduce the levels of alcohol intake.

Programme Director,

I am aware of the role that schools within Windhoek have played in the Cancer Apple project, particularly the sale of apples by learners. These efforts made in support of the 2008 Bank Windhoek Cancer Apple Project are highly appreciated.

I further note with appreciation the contribution made by all Namibians as stakeholders in the fight against cancer by ensuring the success of the Project. To the school Principals, staff, and learners, thank you for the job well done. Indeed, I congratulate the school that championed by selling the most apples per learner.

We remain grateful that, through your support, a total of N\$750 000 was raised in aid of the Cancer Association of Namibia. I believe this must be one of the most successful fundraising projects to this end.

Programme Director,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Bank Windhoek Cancer Apple Project is a true demonstration of how various key players in the business world and community can work together to make a difference in the lives of Cancer patients in Namibia. Against this background, I would like to thank Bank Windhoek and its project partners for the resources, hard work and dedication to the project over the past eight years.

In closing, may I remind us all that the war against cancer is not yet over. Indeed, there remains a need for financial support and volunteerism for the Bank Windhoek Cancer Apple Project in 2009 and beyond.

For this reason, I wish to call upon our partners, the schools, the public and private sector, to join hands with Bank Windhoek in soliciting funding to support the activities of the Cancer Association of Namibia.

Thank you.