

REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA



**REMARKS BY HON. RICHARD NCHABI KAMWI, MP,
MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES,
ON THE OCCASION OF THE NATIONAL DAY OF
THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA**

Windhoek, 11th December 2008

Your Excellency Mrs. Rose Jebiwott Boit, High Commissioner of
the Republic of Kenya and Mr. Boit,
Honourable Ministers and Members of Parliament,
Your Excellencies Members of the Diplomatic Corps,
Distinguished Invited Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am delighted to join you today in celebrating your National Day.
I would like to convey, on behalf of the Government and people of
the Republic of Namibia, our warmest congratulations and best
wishes to the Government and people of Kenya on this special
occasion, marking 45 years of Kenya's attainment of national
independence.

History reminds us today that on the 12th day of December 1963,
the people of Kenya finally gained their independence after having
suffered many years under colonialism.

We take cognisance that your independence was attained through
hardship and sacrifice. On this solemn occasion, we wish to pay
deserved homage to Mzee Jomo Kenyatta, Dedan Kimathi and
other Kenyan patriots who laid a strong foundation on which
Kenya today rests as a sovereign state.

Your Excellency,

The relations between Namibia and Kenya were forged through a common African aspiration and determination towards achieving economic growth and social advancement of our fraternal peoples. Kenya provided needed political and moral support to SWAPO and the people of Namibians during our struggle for national liberation.

After the attainment of Namibia's freedom and independence, both our countries moved with determined speed to consolidate bilateral relations and cooperation for mutual benefit.

Your Excellency,

Namibia cherishes the excellent bilateral relations that exist between our two countries. We have a number of areas of co-operation in which we continue to work together, including in particular health and education. Allow me, Your Excellency, to express our gratitude for this valuable support, which significantly re-enforces our national development programmes.

Your Excellency,

I am pleased to hear that the inauguration of the Joint Commission of Co-operation between our two governments is scheduled for next year. The Joint Commission will afford us the opportunity to focus on some of the crucial areas of co-operation, with special emphasis on the promotion of investment, trade and tourism.

Your Excellency,

Distinguished Guests,

May I request you all to join me in proposing a toast to the good health of His Excellency, Mr. Mwai Kibaki, President of the Republic of Kenya, and to the lasting bonds of friendship between our two countries and peoples.

I thank you!