



Republic of Namibia

Keynote Address

By

**Dr Richard Nchabi Kamwi, MP
Minister of Health and Social Services**

During the Inauguration of Onambutu PHC Clinic

**Ohangwena Region
7th November 2008**

Program Director

Hon. Governor of Ohangwena Region- Cde. Usko Nghaamwa

Hon. Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs – Cde Lempy Lukas

Hon. Regional Councilor for Eenhana Constituency –

Cde. Udeiko Hausiku

Headman of Onambutu - Tk Nande

Secretary for SWAPO Party Elders Council –

Cde Kanana Hishono

The Regional Councilor: Eenhana Constituency –

Cde. N. Haufiku

Hon. Regional and Town Councilors

The Church and Traditional Leaders

Heads of Government Departments from MoHSS and Line
Ministries

Representatives of Non Government and Private Sectors

Members of the Media

Ladies and Gentlemen

Learners

I am pleased to join you at this important occasion where we witness the inauguration of Onambutu Primary Health Care Clinic. This new clinic was constructed at a value of N\$1 784 044.39 by the Ministry of Health and Social Services.

According to the year 2001 Census, this clinic will be serving a population of 5000 and attending to 60 – 50 clients daily. The government under the leadership of SWAPO Party is committed to the provision of accessible, affordable and acceptable health delivery services to various communities countrywide.

Last year, we opened Omboloka clinic while Ongha health Centre is being completed and Oshango clinic is under construction. I am glad to report that the extension for the Regional Management Team Office, the Dental Clinic, General Stores and Mortuary are under construction. Similarly, we are constructing ART clinics for Engela, Eenhana and Okongo district hospitals. The SWAPO Party Government will continue to

renovate and establish new health facilities within walking distances.

I am reliably informed that since Onambutu PHC Clinic opened doors from January to September 2008 there had been much progress on the outpatient cases. For example, the statistics for under 5 years total 721, 5 years and above stands at 2, 407. Meanwhile, ANC attendances 1st visit stood at 135. The EPI coverage has improved and stand at 105 and Family Planning 1st visit stood at 44. The follow up visit has also improved to 320. I am happy to note that the clients receiving PMTCT at the clinic were 135.

I am equally happy to report that out of the nine (9) babies born by HIV positive mothers through the program of PMTCT, seven (7) of them tested negative.

Program Director

Ladies and gentlemen

Onambutu will be a Centre for health education for the community and the learners of the surrounding schools. As a result, I would like to urge the community to look after this modern facility.

I would like to urge the community to look after this modern facility. It is yours and you must ensure that it is well maintained. It is your collective duty to guard against vandalism and to report any abuse of this common property to your leaders. The establishment of this facility will need to be staffed with appropriate qualified staff. However, most of you will be aware of the critical shortage of staff including nurses country wide. The Ministry has done all that is humanly possible to ensure that facilities such as this one are properly manned.

In this regard the Ministry will place one qualified nurse here at this clinic. She will need the full support and cooperation of the community. I appeal to you not to expect her to work 24 hours. It is important to note that the Ministry is working around the clock in training more nurses to fill the vacant posts.

To the staff nurse who has the privilege to be assigned to this modern facility. I would like to urge you to give your best, in serving this community. We expect you to uphold the Ministry's name and standards here. We also expect EPI, antenatal and post natal care statistics to improve. I also wish to direct the Eenhana District Coordinating Committee to supervise and support the nurses at this clinic.

Programme director

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

I now have the honour to declare Onambutu Primary Health Care Clinic officially inaugurated.

I thank you.