



**Republic of Namibia**

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

**BY**

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

**DURING THE  
HAND OVER CEREMONY OF OTJIMANANGOMBE  
CLINIC TO MINISTRY OF HEALTH**

**Gobabis, Epukiro Constituency  
4<sup>th</sup> July 2008**

Director of Ceremonies

Hon. Governor of Omaheke Region-Mrs. Mcleod-Katjirua

Hon. Kazenambo-Deputy Minister of Regional, Local

Government, Housing and Rural Development

Hon. Brave Tjizera-Regional Councilor for Epukiro Constituency

Honourable Regional and Local Councilors Present

Mr. Roger and Mrs. Linda Bullen of Catherine Bullen Memorial Fund

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Health, Mr. K. Kahuure

Visiting Teachers and Learners from France

Members of the Board of Directors of Komeho Namibia

Development Agency

Respected Traditional, Community and spiritual Leaders

Representative of line Ministries, NGO and CBOs

Community members of Epukiro Constituency

Members of the Press

Ladies and Gentlemen

**I** am honoured to be invited to officially accept, on behalf of Government, a donation in the form of a Clinic and nurses accommodation provided by Catherine Bullen Memorial Fund and Rooney Foundation in partnership with Komeho Namibia Development Agency.

**I** am told that a call was made in 2005 by the community to Roger and Linda of the Catherine Bullen Memorial Fund to assist in soliciting funding for an establishment of a clinic for Otjimanangombe community. I am pleased to witness the tireless effort and hard work of these good Samaritans for rising up to that challenge. Indeed, today we meet here to join the community of Otjimanangombe and surrounding villages to share their joy at this modern Primary Health Care Clinic.

**D**irector of Ceremony, Ladies and gentlemen, one of the primary duty of the Ministry of Health and Social Services is the establishment of health facilities country-wide within reach of walking distances. However, due to other competing priorities, the challenge to realise this dream still remains. It is for this reason that efforts by the distinguished couple, Linda and Roger to establish Otjimanangombe Primary Health Care Clinic and Nurses Home in complementing Government's efforts is highly appreciated. It is therefore with deep sense of gratitude and humility that I would like to on behalf of the Government, the people of Namibia and indeed myself extend our heartfelt appreciation and indebtedness to Mr. and Mrs Bullen. Your commitment and tireless efforts to see this project through is

indeed clear testimony of your determination to ensure that Catherine's love for this country and memories lives on.

**I**n the same breath, I would like to similarly express my gratitude to the Komeho Namibia Development agency for facilitating this project. I believe they played a partial role in steering the decision to establish this clinic here and to see the construction through. In this way, Komeho Namibia Development agency act as true partner with Government for the common good for our people.

**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 as we speak to

finalise the Ministry's strategic plan which will assist in determining the staffing norms for all health facilities.

**T**o the staff nurse who has the privilege to be assigned to this modern facility. I would like to urge you to give her best efforts, 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 to improve. I also wish to direct the Gobabis district coordinating community to play supervisory visits regularly.

**I** thank you for your kind attention.

**I** thank you.