



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

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**Address by Honourable Stanley M. Simataa, Deputy Minister of
Information and Communication Technology at the Launch of the MTC
Nestor Sunshine “The Legacy” Independence Boxing Press Conference,
31 January 2018**

Director of Ceremonies

Mr Nestor Tobias, Promoter and Chairman of the MTC Nestor Sunshine
Boxing Academy

Mr Tim Ekandjo, from MTC

Management and staff of the MTC Nestor Sunshine Boxing Academy

Our African champions

Esteemed Guests

Members of the media

Ladies and Gentlemen

Firstly allow me to extend my greetings to you all and to welcome you into the New Year 2018, a year in which we must make things happen and better it for the benefit of our people.

I am delighted to have been invited to this press conference for the official launch of the MTC Nestor Sunshine Boxing Independence bonanza titled “The Legacy Fight”, in honour of our three (3) Presidents, His Excellency Dr Sam Nujoma, Founding President and Father of the Namibian nation, followed by His Excellency Dr Hifikepunye Pohamba, then now His Excellency, Dr Hage Geingob. What is of paramount significance about our 3 Presidents is that their transition from one to the other was done peacefully. This speaks volumes about the political DNA of the Namibian people, a peaceful and loving nation. This is one of the reasons why we celebrate Namibia’s independence, because we have something important to celebrate, which is the peace we continue to enjoy thanks to our leaders.

I am pleased that the MTC Nestor Sunshine Boxing Academy has for the past 10 years always organized boxing events in celebration of Namibia’s Independence. I am also pleased to note that these events continue to be well organized and packed to capacity, and that our boxers continue to impress by winning in style.

Let me however emphasize that you have boldly and strategically decided to honour the legacies of 3 very distinct men, 3 legends, 3 Men of Honour. We cannot let them down by losing any of the 3 title fights on the card. I was assured by Nestor and Tim that Walter “The Executioner” Kautondokwa, Jeremiah “Low key” Nakathila and Mike Shonena, all WBO world rated boxers and African champions, that they will not let us down come the 20th March 2018 at Ramatex.

Although they will be facing tough opponents from Argentina, Tanzania and Ghana, we exhort them to emerge victorious because they will not only be fighting for their good selves but also sustain Namibia’s legacy.

I wish to commend the Academy for the manner in which boxing and sports in general bring Namibians together in celebration.

Whenever Namibians converge during such events their pride and their passion for Nationhood is rekindled. This bodes well with the National Pride and Nationhood Campaign of My Namibia, My Country, and My Pride executed under the tutelage of the Ministry of ICT.

Moreover, Boxing is one of the codes within the sport portfolio that has elevated Namibia's standing in the League of Nations. Apart from its obvious benefits of marketing our country both continentally and globally, sport - professional sport for that matter, is a strategic enterprise that can yield and has yielded enormous dividends, notably

- a) Bringing the hitherto marginalised in the economic mainstream,
- b) Creating opportunities for further enterprise development and the attendant employment creation opportunities – thus accelerating our efforts for inclusivity.

Lastly, I would like to wish the organizers all the success for this event. I encourage all boxing and sports fans to come out in their numbers and enjoy world class boxing on the 20th March 2018 not only to honour but celebrate this great Legacy.

I thank you.