



**REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA**

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND LAND REFORM**

**STATEMENT**

**BY**

**HONOURABLE ANNA SHIWEDA,MP**

**DEPUTY MINISTER**

**AT THE GREEN HYDROGEN SYMPOSIUM**

**26<sup>TH</sup> – 28<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024**

**WINDHOEK COUNRTY CLUB**

**Director of ceremonies;**

**Honourable Obeth Kandjoze, Chairperson of the Green Hydrogen Council;  
representing H.E Dr Nangolo Mbumba, the President of the Republic of Namibia,  
Honourable Dr Itah Kandjii-Murangi, Minister of Higher Education, Technology  
and Innovation;**

**Mr. Stefan Müller, Head of the department "Provision for the Future - Research for  
Fundamentals and Sustainable Development" at BMBF representative from the  
German Federal Ministry of Education (BMBF);**

**Her Excellency, Mrs. Beatrice Martins, EU Ambassador to Namibia;**

**Her Excellency Jovelina Imperial e Costa, Ambassador, of the Republic of  
Angola to, Namibia;**

**His Excellency Phemelo Rankoro, High Commissioner of Botswana, to Namibia;**

**Her Excellency Thenjiwe Mtintso, High Commissioner of South Africa, to Namibia;**

**His Excellency Stephen Katuka, High Commissioner of Zambia, to Namibia**

**His Excellency Dr Andreas Götze, Deputy Head of Mission, German Embassy,  
Namibia**

**Honourable Kornelia Shilunga, Deputy Minister of Mines and Energy;**

**Honourable Laura Mcleod-Katjirua, Governor of Khomas Region;**

**Honourable James Uerikua, Governor of Otjozondjupa Region;**

**Honourable Elia K. Irimari, Governor of Oshana Region;**

**Honourable Erginus Endjala, Governor of Omusati Region;**

**Honourable Sebastian Ndeitunga, Governor of Ohangwena Region;**

**Prof. Gabriel Miguel, Chairperson of the SASSCAL Governing Board;**

**Members of the SASSCAL Governing Board;**

**Executive Director of SASSCAL Regional Secretariat, and your officials;**

**Senior Officials Present;**

**Members of the Media;**

**Ladies and Gentlemen**

It is my utmost honour and privilege that I stand before you this morning to  
address you, our distinguished guests during this Green Hydrogen Symposium,  
which is being held under the theme **“Green Hydrogen in Practice: Green**

**Hydrogen Pilot Projects and Youth for Green Hydrogen Scholarships".** Our attendance of this event will give us an opportunity to witness the Green Hydrogen Journey in Namibia in terms of the progress made with the implementation of the Scholarship Programme and the pilot projects. We are specifically gathered here today because there is a wide spread acknowledgement that Green Hydrogen is one of the solutions to combating the effects of climate change. I, therefore, believe that this symposium will hold fruitful discussions, and provide an environment for knowledge sharing and hearing practical success stories on Green Hydrogen in SADC, Germany and beyond.

**Honourable Ministers;**

**Distinguished guests;**

As a founding Member State and host country of SASSCAL, Namibia can safely testify that since its establishment in 2010, SASSCAL has successfully accomplished many activities and has indeed practically implemented many of its planned programmes and projects focusing on agriculture, woodlands and forestry, climate, biodiversity and water. It is important to point out and acknowledge that the success of SASSCAL phase 1.0 could not have been possible without the financial support of our development partner, Germany, through the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

Therefore, on behalf of SASSCAL Member States, allow me to thank the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, through BMBF, for funding Research Portfolio phase 1.0 (SASSCAL 1.0) , Research Portfolio phase 2.0

(SASSCAL 2.0), and the Green Hydrogen projects. Equally, I would like to appreciate the financial and political commitment made by the SASSCAL Member States namely Angola, Botswana, Namibia, South Africa and Zambia, which made it possible for SASSCAL's operations to continue without interruption over the years.

I am happy to highlight that under SASSCAL phase 2.0, 13 research projects that address regional research needs have been distributed across SASSCAL member countries. In addition, the SASSCAL Graduate Studies Programme in Integrated Water Resources Management (SGSP-IWRM) which is supporting 13 PhD scholars from the five SASSCAL Member States is another success story that is worth highlighting. . Furthermore, it is also important to note that SASSCAL has coordinated different projects in the SADC namely; Wetlands Monitoring and Assessment Project under the Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES) and Africa Programme of the African Union, Green Hydrogen Atlas Project (H2 Atlas) which saw an involvement of 12 SADC countries; Green Quest Project whose aim is to develop sustainable green fuel products in Southern Africa among others. I am proud to inform this Symposium that SASSCAL Automatic Weather Stations continue to provide remarkable climatic data and information to the users, despite the operational challenges that are being experienced with some of these Weather Stations.

**Honourable Ministers;**

**Ladies and Gentlemen;**

It has come to our attention that the only way to limit global warming to not more than 1.5°C, is by considering Green Hydrogen as a clean energy solution. African countries but specifically SADC countries are confronted with a number of interlinked challenges, including climate change, low economic growth rates and poverty, which a Green Hydrogen Industry could assist in addressing.

For this reason, taking advantage of, our abundant natural resources, such as, wind and solar which have the capacity for Green Hydrogen production, African countries could become more energy independent through the promotion and support of the development of zero-carbon industrialization, which will in turn, create both economic growth, employment and significant opportunities for energy exports.

**Honourable Ministers;**

**Distinguished guests;**

I believe that international and regional collaboration will be the key in the development of our shared hydrogen economy and action plans that will set a standard for the success and realization of Green Hydrogen production potential. We cannot achieve our hydrogen ambitions in isolation. Therefore, we should find an amicable way to create a symbiotic relationship with the policy makers, industry players and all relevant stakeholders going forward to realise the success of Green Hydrogen potential.

At this juncture, allow me, to commend SASSCAL for championing the Green Hydrogen activities in Namibia and the entire SADC Region by producing the Atlas of Green Hydrogen Generation Potential in 12 Countries in the SADC Region in collaboration with Julich Research Centre in Germany. Furthermore, I wish to commend SASSCAL for the excellent capacity development programme introduced to empower the Namibian Youth through the scholarship programme.

I would like to encourage, once more, our common efforts to improve SASSCAL's footprint in the SADC Region as we continue with our quest to explore innovative new approaches that are science based, and together, better prepare for the effects of climate change and its impact in the SADC Region.

In conclusion, I wish to thank you sincerely, our distinguished guests, for finding time, in your busy schedules, to prioritize and attend this very important Symposium. Let me also thank the SASSCAL Governing Board, Management and staff for their commitment and dedication towards the operations of our organization.

I look forward to the meeting's deliberations here today, and hope that our discussions will be part of continued efforts to strengthen our joint focus on this critical agenda item.

**I thank you**