

**OPEN SOCIETY  
FOUNDATIONS**



**Theme: Understanding Namibia**  
*The Land of the Brave!*

Windhoek, Namibia  
14– 15 April

AFRICA  
TOUR  
**2025**

NEW FACES,  
PLACES AND  
SPACES

## Dialogue and High-Level Panel on Women’s Leadership and the Promise of Reparative Justice

The Open Society Foundations (OSF) and Action Coalition-Namibia will host a high-level meeting and panel discussion in Windhoek, Namibia, on 14 and 15 April 2025. This is part of the OSF Africa Tour, Namibia chapter, titled “The Land of the Brave,” taking place from 13 to 16 April 2025 in Windhoek.

This engagement comes at a pivotal moment, as the country elected its first female president, Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, in December 2024.

## Dialogue: The Promise of Participation – A Conversation with Young and Traditional Leaders

This dialogue will bring together women, youth, cultural leaders, academics, and international human rights experts to reflect on Namibia’s new chapter under its first woman president.

Discussions will explore how young people and women are shaping this era of reparations by reimagining prosperity as collective well-being—rooted in accountability, equity, and ecological stewardship. Namibia’s leadership in advancing justice and multilateral reforms in a shifting global order will also feature prominently in the conversation.

## Day 1: Monday, 14 April

Venue: Hilton Hotel, Windhoek

Time	Activity	Speaker/s
08:30	Registration of OSF staff and guests Martha 1	
09:00 – 09:15	<b>Welcome remarks:</b> <b>Frederico Links,</b> Chairperson Action Namibia Coalition <b>Hon. Dino Ballotti,</b> Deputy Minister of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sport, Arts and Culture.	Milly Pekeur-Potgieter, OSF
Session 1 10:00 – 11:30	<b>“The Promise of Participation: A Conversation with Young Leaders and Traditional Leadership”</b> As Namibia enters a new era under its first woman president, this panel explores how young leaders and women are reimagining prosperity through the lens of democratic accountability, historical redress, and civic inclusion. At a time when the African Union is advancing the Common Position on Restitution and a continent-wide call for justice through reparations, Namibia faces a defining opportunity: to align its development with the leadership of those most impacted by genocide, land dispossession, and exclusion. Panelists will examine how public memory, equitable governance, and inclusive infrastructure—particularly in response to gender-based violence—can lay the foundation for a participatory democracy that delivers dignity, redress, and a future worthy of its youth.	Moderator: <b>Gretchen Rohr,</b> Reform Initiatives, Senior Advisor and Reparations Strategist  Invited Panellists: Young Women in Political Leadership <b>Ms. Patience Masua,</b> former SWAPO MP <b>Ms. Utaara Mootu,</b> MP LPM Traditional Leaders and Authorities: <b>Chief Immanuel Nu-AxaGaseb,</b> Gaob of the !Oe-#Gan Traditional Authority, Chairperson of National Council of Traditional Authorities <b>Dr Esther Muinjangu,</b> National Unity Democratic Organisation. <b>Corinna van Wyk,</b> LEAD project of the LAC

## Day 1: Monday, 14 April (cont'd)

Time	Activity	Speaker/s
11:30-12:00	Tea Break	All
12:00-13:30	<p><b>Room: Martha ONE</b></p> <p><b>Leading the quest for justice, multilateral reforms in changing global order:</b></p> <p>The session will explore Namibia's leadership in the area of international justice and exchange views and experiences with top legal experts who have taken on cases at the ICJ.</p> <p><b>Themes:</b> international human rights, genocide, climate justice, land occupation, expropriation, sovereignty, land.</p>	<p>Moderator: <b>Toni Hancox</b>, Dir. Legal Assistance Centre Namibia</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <p>--<b>Adv. Gladice Pickering</b>, Exec. Dir OPM</p> <p>--<b>Yvonne Dausab</b>, former Minister of Justice Namibia</p> <p>--<b>Norman Tjombe</b>, Legal Practitioner, and Trustee Legal Assistance Centre, Namibia</p>
13:30	Closing statement: <b>Hon Emma Theofilus</b> , Minister of Information and Communication Technology.	
13:30 –15:00	Lunch and Networking with Namibian CSOs	

## Day 2: Tuesday, 15 April

### High-Level Panel: Women's leadership and the Reparations Agenda: Past Present and Future prospects for acknowledgement, solidarity and justice

This high-level panel will highlight the critical role of women in driving the reparations agenda, with a special focus on Namibia's historical context. It will also reflect on the African Union's designation of 2025 as the Year of Justice for Africans and People of African Descent through Reparations, reinforcing the growing call for global acknowledgment, solidarity, and justice

**Venue:** Hilton Hotel, Windhoek

**Time:** 19:00 – 20:30

18:00	<b>Welcome Reception</b>	Hilton Hotel – Room Martha 1
19:00-20:30	<p><b>High-Level Panel</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>H.E. Lucia Witbooi</b> Vice President of Namibia (tbc)</li> <li>• <b>Hon. Inna Hengari</b>, MP, Popular Democratic Movement (PDM)</li> <li>• <b>Yvonne Dausab</b>, former Minister of Justice</li> <li>• <b>Brian Kagoro</b>, Managing Director, OSF</li> </ul> <p><b>Theme:</b> Women's leadership and the Reparations Agenda: Past Present and Future Prospects for Acknowledgement, Solidarity and Justice-</p> <p><b>Theme:</b> What shifts do we see now with women leading these initiatives on reparations?</p>	<p>Event MC: <b>Jeggan Grey-Johnson</b>, OSF</p> <p>Welcome remarks: <b>Frederico Links</b>, Chairperson Action Namibia Coalition</p> <p>Speech by <b>Ms. Binaifer Nowrojee</b>, delivered by Mr. Pedro Abramovay, Vice President, OSF</p> <p>Panel Moderator: <b>Zoe Titus</b>, Action Namibia Coalition</p> <p>Vote of thanks: <b>Milly Pekeur-Potgieter</b>, OSF</p>

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