

5. GENERAL VIEW ON DEVELOPMENT FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

Joram Useb (Namibia) is a member of the Hai//om community. He was born in 1975. He obtained an International General Certificate of Secondary Education in 1996. He was a member of the Student Representative Council and worked on a farm during his school holidays. Joram is committed to assisting the Hai//om community in settling problems with their leadership in a democratic and transparent fashion

For the first time in history, at the invitation of the Shakawe consultation, we gather as representatives of our communities to recognize the significance of social development and human well-being for all and to give these goals the highest priority both now, and into the next century.

People of the world have shown in different ways, an urgent need to address profound social problems, especially poverty, unemployment and social exclusion that affect every country. It is our task to address both their underlying and structural causes and their distressing consequences, in order to reduce uncertainty and insecurity in the lives of people.

I am deeply convinced that economic development, social development and environmental protection are interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development, which is the framework for our efforts to achieve a higher quality of life for all people. Equitable social development that recognizes empowering the poor to utilize environmental resources sustainably is a necessary foundation for sustainable development.

I believe that social and economic development cannot be secured in a sustainable way without the full participation of (San) women. Equality and equity between women and men is a priority for the national community, and as such, must

be at the centre of economic and social development. The people are the centre of my concern for sustainable development and they are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with the environment.



Willemien Leroux and Petrus Vaalbooi (1)