

In Namibia, which I often refer to as a Child of International Solidarity, we are celebrating this year, 25 years of peace and stability. This is thanks to the United Nations, which midwifed the birth of our country.

Over the past two and a half decades, we have put in place robust governance fundamentals, which include respect for the rule of law, protection of individual freedoms and freedom of the press. We are a mature democracy.

Our

achieve several of our developmental objectives. We are grateful for this humble gesture by the Bush administration.

The social development deficit in Namibia remains

In Namibia, despite our significant achievements in improving the economy of our country, the income gap between the

and other amenities. However, income levels of the majority of the population are low, making it difficult for them to afford housing. This is, therefore another area that is in serious need of development finance.

The question is how, can we finance this development. Although we are asking for financing from our friends and development partners in the international community, we are not sitting idly. As Government we are committed to taking highlighted. We are here to