

REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA



CHRISTMAS MESSAGE BY HIS EXCELLENCY HIFIKEPUNYE POHAMBWA, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

25 DECEMBER 2012

WINDHOEK

**Check Against Delivery*

Fellow Namibians,

On behalf of the Government and my family, I would like to wish the entire nation a happy Festive Season and an enjoyable Christmas. The year was long, and our people worked hard and made their contribution, to the task of nation building. Now it is time, for the majority of our people, to rest and spend quality time with families and friends.

Our thoughts are with our health care workers, law enforcement officials, emergency workers and other compatriots, who are on duty during this time because they have to perform essential services. I commend them all for their dedication to duty and for their service to our nation. That is what patriotism is all about. We are all proud of them.

I appeal to the nation to celebrate Christmas in a responsible manner so that we can avoid unnecessary injuries and loss of lives because of road accidents, domestic violence, murder, alcohol and drug abuse, or because of other forms of risky behaviour. It will indeed be the greatest gift that our nation can ever have, if we all do our best to protect the lives and properties of our people during this holiday season.

I wish to send a special message to the Namibian children. I urge you all to rest well, and to be ready to go back to school and study hard in the New Year.

As we celebrate Christmas, we should not forget the unfortunate members of our society who do not have the means. We should, therefore, extend a hand of assistance to the poor, senior citizens and the sick so that they can also appreciate that we are a caring society.

Once again, Merry Christmas to you all.

Long live the Republic of Namibia.

Good Night.