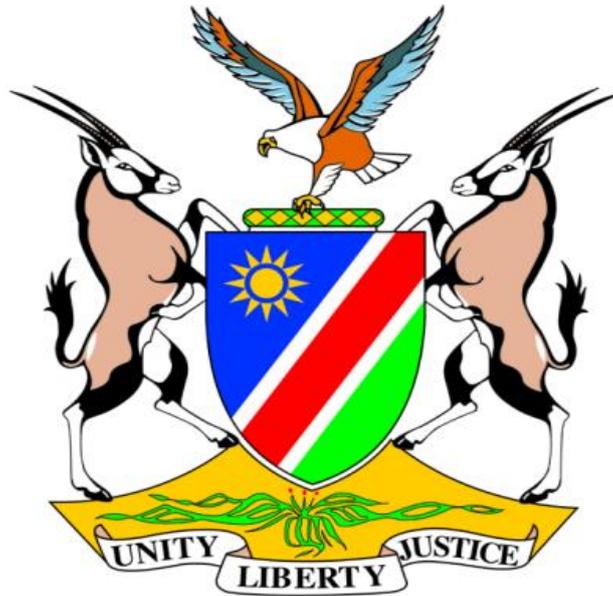


REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA



**STATEMENT BY
HIS EXCELLENCY DR HAGE G. GEINGOB,
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA,
ON THE OCCASION OF THE LAST CABINET MEETING OF
THE 2018 CALENDAR YEAR**

DECEMBER 4, 2018

STATE HOUSE, WINDHOEK

Check against delivery

**Comrade Nangolo Mbumba, Vice President of
the Republic of Namibia;**

**Right Honourable Saara Kuugongelwa-
Amadhila, Prime Minister of the Republic of
Namibia;**

**Honourable Netumbo Nandi Ndaitwah,
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of
International Relations and Cooperation;**

Honourable Ministers;

**Comrade Sophia Shaningwa, Secretary
General of the SWAPO Party;**

Secretary to the Cabinet;

Members of the Media;

Ladies and Gentlemen;

Members of Cabinet, as we move closer to drawing the curtain on the year 2018, we also come to the end of our Cabinet meetings for the year. I wish to congratulate all of you for having contributed to the efficient functioning of Cabinet during the course of the year. It has been a trying and testing year for us, but true to form, we have persevered and stayed the course. Together, we have ensured that Cabinet successfully carried out its responsibility in terms of policy determination, and directing, coordinating and supervising the activities of all Offices, Ministries and Agencies within our Government.

Without your unquestionable work ethic and commitment towards the pursuit of our national development aspirations, Cabinet

could not have achieved the amount of progress witnessed this year. I commend all of you for the leadership and professionalism you have shown in carrying out your responsibilities as Members of the Cabinet. At this juncture I also wish to acknowledge the contributions of the Secretary to Cabinet and his staff, who have worked tirelessly in ensuring that we sustain the smooth running of our Cabinet sessions.

At the inaugural Cabinet session of 2018, I reminded all of you of the fundamental and Constitutional commitment required of us, as members of the Executive, particularly in relation to the requirements of Transparency, Good Governance, Accountability, Responsiveness and Ethical Leadership.

I believe that during the course of the year, you have all endeavored to adhere to these principles, to the best of your ability. We can all admit that there is room for improvement, and as we prepare to take a well-deserved rest, let us pause and reflect on areas in which we can improve in the future.

As the apex of the running of the machinery of State, we are called upon to be the spearhead in the fight against poverty, corruption and income inequality. Our work informs the coordination of respective Government Ministries in their efforts to ensure the social harmony and prosperity of all Namibians.

It is through your unwavering efforts, as Cabinet members, that we have been able to formulate policies aimed at broad-based

social uplifting through employment, sustained income growth, universal access to education, housing and healthcare. These policies have helped take us closer to strengthening our social economic architecture, and thereby firming up the foundation of our Namibian House.

I now wish to outline some of the highlights of Cabinet business for the year 2018. During the year, we were able to hold 19 Deliberative Cabinet Meetings and Decision Making Cabinet Meetings respectively. During these meetings, we discussed 272 Agenda Items and took 260 Cabinet Decisions. In addition to this, we conducted 3 Special Cabinet Meetings.

Some of the issues discussed during this year's Cabinet are listed in the attached document.

This list of items illustrates the commitment we have displayed this year towards not only fulfilling our Constitutional obligation as Cabinet, but our dogged determination to ensure that Namibia realises the ambitions set out in Vision 2030, our National Development Plans and the Harambee Prosperity Plan, for the good of our people.

Let me state that we still face challenges. We are still recovering from the downturn in the economy which has persisted during the past several years. However, our ability to maintain positive, steady progress during difficult times gives me hope and confidence

that we stand ready to continue our forward march towards prosperity, once the economic situation becomes favourable.

I am reminded of the words of President Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana who said, "Countrymen, the task ahead is great indeed, and heavy is the responsibility; and yet it is a noble and glorious challenge - a challenge which calls for the courage to dream, the courage to believe, the courage to dare, the courage to do, the courage to envision, the courage to fight, the courage to work, the courage to achieve...."

Comrades, the task of running a nation is great indeed, and heavy is the responsibility; especially for a Party and a President that received such an overwhelming mandate

from the people of Namibia. However, fulfilling this mandate and living up to the expectations of our people is a noble and glorious challenge - a challenge which calls for the courage to dream – yes, we dreamed of the concept of a Namibian House, a future Namibia in which no Namibian shall feel left out unless by his/her own choice, the courage to believe - yes, we believe in the future Namibia, a Namibian House where we will all live in unity, peace and prosperity, the courage to dare - yes, we dared to take drastic actions to deal with corruption and to trim the fat in Government in order to cut costs, the courage to do - yes, in difficult times we did what is necessary for the sake of Namibia's future, the courage to envision - yes, we envision the light at the end of the tunnel, the courage to fight – yes we showed

commitment to fight poverty and corruption, to the courage to work – yes, we have carried out our work as per the attached documents and finally the courage to achieve – yes, together, we have achieved much in the year 2018

Let us maintain this positive and united spirit and focus on taking our country, our Namibian House, another step closer towards prosperity. In conclusion, I wish to thank all of you once more for the hard work and exemplary conduct you have displayed throughout the year. Take a well-deserved break, because next year we hit the ground running. I wish all of you and your families, safe travels during the festive season. May you and your families experience abundance, happiness and peace in a new year filled with

**hope and opportunity. Merry Christmas and
a Happy New Year.**

Thank you.