

REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA



Statement by H.E. President Hage G. Geingob following Confirmation of Two Cases of COVID-19 on Namibian Soil

14 March 2020

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen,

Thank you for coming to State House,

The World Health Organization has declared COVID19 a global pandemic. Therefore, Namibia has to take steps to deal with this pandemic. The Minister of Health announced this morning that there are two confirmed cases of COVID-19 on Namibian soil.

The health of Namibians is the first priority. Appropriate precautionary measures must be taken. To protect Namibians from being affected by this virus:

- 1. The Independence Celebrations that were scheduled for Independence Stadium are called**

off. However, the swearing-in-ceremony will take place at State House.

- 2. The financial outlay for Independence Celebrations will be diverted to the fight against the Coronavirus.**
- 3. The Namibian Government is suspending inbound and outbound travel to and from Qatar, Ethiopia and Germany with immediate effect for a period of 30 days.**
- 4. All big gatherings are suspended for a period of 30 days.**
- 5. Lockdown of Windhoek Gymnasium with immediate effect for a period of two weeks**
- 6. Suspension of all travels by Namibian government officials, including State-Owned Enterprises**

The Interministerial-Task Force whose members have joined me here will communicate additional Measures.