

REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA



**STATEMENT BY HIS EXCELLENCY DR HAGE G. GEINGOB
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA, ON THE OCCASION
OF THE LAUNCH OF THE AFRICA PEER REVIEW
MECHANISMS NATIONAL GOVERNING COUNCIL AND THE
SIGNING OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT MISSIONS**

November 6, 2019

Windhoek, Namibia

- **Comrade Nangolo Mbumba, Vice President of the Republic of Namibia;**
- **Right Honourable Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila, Prime Minister;**
- **Honourable Professor Peter Katjavivi, Speaker of the National Assembly and Madam Katjavivi;**
- **Hon. Bernhard Songa Sibalatani, Acting Chairperson of the National Council;**
- **Honourable Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of International Relations and Cooperation;**
- **Honourable Ministers and Deputy Ministers;**
- **Ambassador Ombeni Sefue, Member of the APRM Panel of Eminent Persons and Lead Panel member for Namibia**
- **Your Excellencies Members of the Diplomatic Corps;**
- **Professor Eddy Makola – Chief Executive Officer of the APRM Continental Secretariat**
- **Distinguished Invited Guests;**
- **Media fraternity;**
- **Ladies and Gentleman,**

It is my distinct honour to welcome you all at State House to witness the launch of Namibia’s Africa Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) National Governing Council, and the signing of the

Memorandum of Understanding on Technical Assessment Missions and the Country Review Visits between the Committee of Heads of State and Government Participating in the Africa Peer Review Mechanism and Namibia.

Namibia acceded to the Africa Peer Review Mechanism as the 36th Member State in January 2017 at Addis Ababa-Ethiopia, during the Africa Peer Review Forum of Heads of State and Government.

Since inception, the Africa Peer Review Mechanism undertook sensitization missions to Namibia in 2018-2019, on the importance of undertaking a successful and inclusive base review. These national consultations were held with all relevant stakeholders, especially civil society.

The APRM plays a critical role in ensuring that Africa realizes its aspirations and developmental goals as enshrined in Agenda 2063 particularly its First Ten Years Implementation Plan.

The APRM is also critical in the implementation of the development agenda in Africa, given its new extended mandate of monitoring the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and the Agenda 2063 in all AU Member States.

To date, 38 Member States are participating in the Mechanism which provides a valuable opportunity to introspectively interrogate systems, processes and institutions in Member States.

Namibia voluntarily acceded to the Mechanism with a view to sharing with the continent its best governance practices that will contribute to the growth and development of Africa in achieving the Africa we all want and at the same time, learning from the best practices from other African countries.

The APRM adds to the list of important African legal instruments that Namibia acceded to in our concerted efforts to make Africa a better continent for its citizens.

We remain confident that through proper implementation of APRM, Africa will improve its governance architecture.

The four major thematic areas are: Democratic and Political Governance, Socio-economic Development, Corporate Governance, and Economic Governance and Management. These thematic areas are key pillars for accountability, transparency and good governance on the continent, thereby, ensuring that we realize the Africa we want and desire.

The Africa we want is the one characterized by transparency, anchored on the rule of law and democracy.

We aim for a new Africa full of hope, with a bright future, where the youth and women are the main driving forces in achieving prosperity and development. Indeed, a continent where there is no corruption. A continent where no citizen feels left out from the benefits accrued from its vast and abundant natural resources.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

The APRM Statute requires Participating Member States to establish appropriate National Structures such as the Focal Point, National Secretariat and National Governing Council. In this regard, I wish to congratulate Ambassador Lineekela Mboti, for his appointment as the National Focal Point and the Chief Executive Officer of the National APRM Secretariat, and for spearheading the establishment of the APRM National Structures in Namibia.

The Focal Point has played and will continue to play a key role as Namibia's representative at the APRM Continental Secretariat.

The National Governing Council, which is an autonomous body, has a crucial role to play in mainstreaming APRM systems, processes and institutions in Namibia.

The National Secretariat will be providing administrative and support services, necessary for the successful running of the national APRM programmes.

By signing the MOU on Technical Assessment Missions today, Namibia is committing to the full implementation of the Africa Peer Review Mechanism. We are further committing to provide critical information to the Continental Secretariat, relevant to speeding up the process of finalizing the Country Review Report for Namibia.

We are now opening the doors for the APRM continental Secretariat to start its work in the four thematic areas mentioned earlier.

I therefore congratulate the Members of the National Governing Council on their new assignment as champions for transparency and good governance in Namibia.

I encourage you to carry out your assignments with due diligence, honesty, and to always remember that you are the servants of the people of Namibia, as you provide strategic policy guidance for the implementation of the APRM process.

We expect transparency in your collective work, and would like to learn from the best governance practices on the continent, which would improve our general well-being.

In conclusion, we commit to submitting the Africa Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) Country Review Report of the Republic of Namibia, at the APRM Forum of Heads of State and Government to be held in Addis Ababa, in January 2022.

I believe that it is only through commitment, unity and hard work that we would be able to achieve that milestone and present an engaging, acceptable and broadly outstanding Country Review Report.

I thank you for your attention.