

Hon. Benitha Imbamba, Chairperson of the Management Committee ERONGO REGIONAL COUNCIL

Special Address to ERC and Delegated Functions Staff on the passing of His Excellency, Dr Hage G Geingob 5 February 2024

Dear bereaved Colleagues.

"Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted." Matthew 5:4

I should state from the onset that it was with utmost disbelief and profound sadness when the Presidency announced the passing on of His Excellency, Dr Hage G. Geingob, the third President of this Republic, on 4 February 2024 in Windhoek.

The Nation is mourning the unexpected demise of our dedicated leader who served this Nation with zeal, passion, commitment and determination. We are therefore gathered here today, to observe a Moment of Silence in honour and remembrance of the gallant son of this prosperous country, His Excellency, Dr Geingob. Let's take a moment of silence (after few minutes). May the good Lord accept his spirit, Amen.

Dear bereaved colleagues and entire citizens of the Erongo Region,

Our democracy has come of age and our country boasts with a modest Constitution, which has clear provisions on issues around succession. These provisions are well articulated through Articles 29 and 34, and their application translated into the elevation of His Excellency, Dr Nangolo Mbumba, sworn in as 4th President of the Republic of Namibia, and subsequently Her Excellency, Dr Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah as Vice President.

Dear colleagues, I now move to summarise the directive we received thus far;

The National and AU flags are to be hoisted at half-mast to observe the mourning period, starting from 5 February 2024 until the date of the funeral. The Management Committee as well as the senior management cadres urges everyone to observe these protocols. As advised by the Minister of Information and Communication Technology, funeral arrangements will be announced at a later stage — and this will be communicated through the Office of the Chief Regional Officer once such information is received and if you happen to have missed it.

In the midst of mourning and discomfort, I implore on all residence of the Erongo Region at large to respect and show compassion to each other and more especially to the family of the departed President.

The Erongo Regional Council will do all possible to ensure that you are kept abreast on the developments as they unfold. On this note, the Regional Council has made an effort to ensure that the residents have an opportunity to sign the Book of Condolences. I would like to call upon all of us to express our love and sympathy for departed leader, through signing the Book of Condolences which will be placed at the main reception of the Erongo Regional Council, located in the Tobias Hainyeko Street.

As I wrap up, I would like to inform you that our Public Relations and Meetings Section in collaboration with the colleagues at MICT, will compile set of pictures and short stories on social media every second day – depicting the interactions of HE Dr Geingob, in his visits to the Region.

It's my firm desire that President Geingob's legacy lives on, to inspire generation of generations. May His Soul Rest in Peace.

I thank you