



MOJ

Ministry of Justice

Republic of Namibia

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UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN NAMIBIA

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The Republic of Namibia will participate in the third cycle review of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) mechanism of the Human Rights Council (HRC) on 03- 06 May 2021, as a State under Review (SuR). Namibia, as a second-time member of the HRC, supports this distinct and effective mechanism, which was designed to prompt, support, and expand the promotion and protection of human rights on the ground. The UPR is rated by States and Civil Society as the most successful of all mechanisms of the HRC, as it serves for the review of the human rights situations in ALL UN Member States, avoiding double standards and promoting dialogue and cooperation in a peer-review and non-confrontational manner.

The UPR was created through the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on 15 March 2006 by resolution 60/251, which established the HRC itself. Currently, no other universal mechanism of this kind exists. The UPR was endeavoured in 2006 to be the central function of the HRC, which reminds States of their responsibility to fully respect and implement all human rights and fundamental freedoms. The ultimate goal of the UPR is the improvement of the human rights situation in every country with significant consequences for people around the globe. To achieve this, the UPR involves assessing States' human rights records and addressing human rights violations wherever they occur. The UPR also aims to provide technical assistance to States and enhance their capacity to deal effectively with human rights challenges and to share best practices in the field of human rights among States and other stakeholders.

The review shall assess to what extent States respect their human rights obligations contained in:

- . **The Charter of the United Nations;**
- . **The Universal Declaration of Human Rights;**
- . **Human Rights instruments to which the State is party;**
- . **Voluntary pledges and commitments made by the State;**
- . **Applicable international humanitarian law.**

The result of each review is reflected in an "outcome report" listing the recommendations the SuR will have to implement before the next review. The full reports for Namibia can be found on:

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/NAindex.aspx>

The UPR Working Group sessions are held at the United Nations Office at Geneva and are also webcasted on <http://webtv.un.org/>

During the 2nd Cycle review, Namibia received 219 recommendations and accepted 191 of those recommendations, and has submitted the UPR state report setting out the progress made in implementing the accepted recommendations. The report also highlights the persisting challenges which the Namibian Government continues to address through progressive interventions. Members of the public and all interested stakeholders are invited to take note of the process and information and to contact the Ministry of Justice for any further information in this regard.