

## OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND COOPERATION

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## THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

On behalf of the Government and People of the Republic of Namibia, I reiterate our unwavering support to the cause of the Palestinian people in the fight for their right to self-determination, on this International Day of Solidarity with the People of Palestine.

While we reflect on the achievements of the United Nations (UN) over the past 75 years, many unfortunate developments have taken place in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, including provocations through announcements of planned annexation, excessive use of force, home demolitions, and settler violence, and other human rights violations. These measures continue to be implemented in contravention of international law, including the Fourth Geneva Convention, and all relevant United Nations Resolutions.

Namibia is convinced that a return to the table of negotiations to reach a two-State solution, with Israel and Palestine living side-by-side, based on the pre-1967 borders, and in accordance with international law and the parameters of the relevant UN resolutions, is the only way to ensure a peaceful, just, and lasting solution between our brothers and sisters of Palestine and Israel.

As a member of the UN Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (CEIRPP), Namibia together with the Committee, will continue to mobilize efforts to raise international awareness on the situation that prevails in Palestine. Also, Namibia will continue to support the **United Nations Relief and Works Agency** for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) and the implementation of its mandate. The Agency's services remain essential to the lives of 5.6 million Palestinian children, women and men, and provides a lifetime to these refugees.

In the spirit of solidarity, Namibia wishes to reassure the People of Palestine that your just struggle continues to be ours as well. As you reflect on this day about the long-drawn journey to freedom and independence, know that you are not alone. Namibia yearns with you for an end to your suffering and the dawn of a new day. That day-that will finally bring lasting peace, restoration of dignity, sovereignty and security to all the people of the Palestine. That day – that will bring peace, harmony and security to you, your neighbors and the region of the Middle East as a whole.

Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, MP

Deputy Prime Minister & M