



Electoral Commission of Namibia

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**OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE FINAL ELECTION RESULTS FOR
THE 2019 PRESIDENTIAL AND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS BY
ECN CHAIRPERSON, ADV. NOTEMBA TJIPUEJA**

Central Elections Results Centre, ECN HQ – WINDHOEK

30th November 2019

- **Director of Ceremonies, Commissioner Freyer**
- **Your Excellency President Dr. Hage Gottfried Geingob, Distinguished Presidential Candidates and Leaders of Political Parties**
- **Honourable Speaker of the National Assembly, Professor Peter Katjavivi**
- **Dear Fellow Commissioners;**
- **Chief Electoral and Referenda Officer, Mr. Theo Mujoro**
- **Members of the Diplomatic Corps present;**
- **International and Local Election Observers;**
- **Members of the Civil Society;**
- **Members of the Media;**
- **Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen;**

It is my distinct honour and privilege to warmly welcome you all to Election House to witness the official announcement of results for the 2019 Presidential and National Assembly elections.

The Electoral Commission of Namibia (ECN), is the exclusive body that is mandated to direct, supervise, manage and control the conduct of elections and referenda in a free, fair, independent, credible, transparent and impartial manner. With a great sense of satisfaction and accomplishment, we as ECN can report to the Namibian nation that our elections were free, fair and credible.

We are therefore delighted to inform you that for this Presidential and National Assembly elections, the ECN registered **1,358,468 (One Million, Three Hundred and Fifty-eight Thousand and Four Hundred and Sixty-Eight)** voters. The voter turnout for the Presidential Elections is **826 198 (Eight Hundred and Twenty-Six Thousand One Hundred and Ninety-Eight)** which is 60.8% of the total number of registered voters. For the National Assembly Elections, the voter turnout is **820 227 (Eight Hundred and Twenty Thousand Two Hundred and Twenty-Seven)** which represents 60.4% of the number of registered voters.

Before I proceed any further, **Ladies and Gentlemen**, allow me to sincerely thank our key stakeholders, the political parties and the independent candidate as well as their supporters for the political campaigns which took place in a calm and tolerant atmosphere, ensuring that peace prevailed in the run up to the elections.

As a country, we must be profoundly grateful to our Creator, for the fact that once again, our beautiful nation and its people, despite our differences and our cultural diversities, we managed to hold peaceful elections. In this regard, ladies and gentlemen we are all aware that peaceful elections without violent incidents are a rare commodity.

The general adherence to the Code of Conduct for political parties was indeed welcome and points to the maturing and consolidation of democracy in Namibia.

The hundreds of thousands of Namibian voters should be commended for exercising patience in waiting for their turn to cast their vote at various polling stations across the country.

The commitment to democracy is not only demonstrated by the number or regularity of elections conducted, but more so by the way ordinary citizens are willing to sacrifice their time, energy and convenience to make sure that they register themselves as voters and turn up at polling stations to cast their vote.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

We are gathered here today to solemnly witness the announcement of the 2019 Presidential and National Assembly elections, an occasion marked by the invocation and observance of legal provisions. In terms of the Electoral Act, the announcement of results is provided for in terms of Section 109 subsection (1) for Presidential election, and Section 110 subsections (1), (2) and (3) for the National Assembly elections.

Program Director,

Engaging in a healthy competition is a sign of a vibrant democracy. In fact, it is universally accepted that elections entail competition and choice. It entails candidates vying and canvassing votes and voters making informed choices through the proverbial ballot box. In that sense, a healthy competition is not only good for democracy, but the plurality of voices and choices is necessary if the consolidation of democracy is to be realized.

It is very evident that democracy has taken root in Namibia. We must, at all costs, guard against unhealthy competition which can lead us down the path of destruction. We must jealously guard the prevailing peace and stability in our country because socio-economic development and nation building depend on that.

It is therefore heartening to witness democracy in action in Namibia. We have embraced plurality as demonstrated by the number and diversity of the presidential candidates and political parties participating in this election. It is worth noting that for the first time in our electoral history, we have an Independent Candidate and a female Presidential Candidate.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Program Director

I will fail in my duty as the Chairperson of the Electoral Commission of Namibia, if I omit to mention our polling officials and the sacrifices they made to facilitate the polling process. Furthermore, I wish to recognise the high level of commitment, professionalism and dedication of our Commissioners, CEO and staff. I therefore dedicate the ECN's preparedness and delivery of free, fair and transparent elections to them.

The 2019 elections have also shown an increasing trend of young people willing to participate in the electoral process. A total number of **700, 648** young people representing **52%** of the voters on the final register, registered themselves as voters. A further analysis has revealed that **403, 106** representing 30% of registered voters were Born-Frees, young people who were born after our independence in 1990. It also revealed that **8, 623** young persons who registered themselves as voters, and representing 0.6% of the registered voters were Millennials, while a total number of **128,190** persons who registered themselves, and representing 9.4% of registered voters were young people who turned 18 years of age since the last Presidential and National Assembly elections in 2014.

In the past, young people were associated with voter apathy but the observed new trend seems to validate the effectiveness of voter and civic education campaign specifically targeting the youth. These are encouraging signs suggesting that our young people are interested in the political affairs of their country.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Every electoral processes will experience its own challenges and in the interest of transparency, the ECN advises that some of the delays experienced in the announcement of these results were due to ensuring that any discrepancies were identified and rectified. In particular, it was noted on receipt of documentations from Returning Officers in the following Constituencies:

Otjiwarongo Constituency – Team 303

Opuwo Rural Constituency – Team 311

Moses Garoeb Constituency – Team 115

Eenhana Constituency – Team 310

That the Returning Officers of these constituencies at the time of tabulation of results at the Collation centres omitted to include the results of the respective aforementioned polling stations. Hence results from these polling stations were not included in constituency results declared by the Returning Officers at these collation centres.

Following the detection of these anomalies this afternoon, the Chief Electoral Officer undertook corrective measures by directing the concerned Returning Officers to make requisite statements under oath and to rectify the discrepancies on the announcement forms and paste the rectified forms at the respective collation centres.

Esteemed Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

With no further ado, please allow me to make a formal announcement of the Presidential and National Assembly Elections in accordance with Sections 109 and 110 of the new Electoral Act, Act No.5 of 2014. I am delighted to announce that we have received all the results counted from all polling station from all 121 Constituencies and determined in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Act. Furthermore, the results from the Special Voting Day conducted both at foreign missions and in-country on 13th November 2019 have been included in final count.

Ladies and Gentlemen, rest assured that the ECN has honoured its responsibilities regarding the preparations and holding of the Presidential and National Assembly elections of which results I will now announce in accordance with the sections of the Electoral Act I have referred to above.

1. THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

In accordance with **Sections 109** subsection (1) of the Electoral Act which states that, upon receiving the results of the Presidential Elections, the Chairperson of the Commission shall in the prescribed manner announce them by making known the total number of votes counted in respect of each candidate and that the Chairperson shall also declare the candidate determined in accordance with subsection (2) to have accumulated the highest votes duly elected as President with effect from such dates determined by the Namibian Constitution.

A total of **eleven (11) candidates** contested the Presidential Elections. I will now announce the results that candidates obtained according to alphabetic order of the parties they represented in the Presidential race and the Independent Candidate:

CANDIDATES	VOTES	%
Hon. Apius Auchab (UDF)	22 115	2.7
Dr. Hage Gottfried Geingob (Swapo Party of Namibia)	464 703	56.3
Hon. Dr. Tangeni Iijambo (SWANU)	5 959	0.7
Dr. Panduleni Fillemon Bango Itula (IC)	242 657	29.4
Mr. Henry Ferdinand Mudge (RP)	4 379	0.5
Ms. Esther Utjiua Muinjangue (NUDO)	12 039	1.5
Mr. Epafra Jan Mukwilongo (NEFF)	1 026	0.1
Hon. Mike Ratoveni Kavekatora (RDP)	3 515	0.4
Hon. Shixwameni Ignatius Nkotongo (APP)	3 304	0.4
Mr. Bernadus Clinton Swartbooi (LPM)	22 542	2.7
Hon. McHenry Venaani (PDM)	43 959	5.3
TOTAL	826 198	100

*It is thus my honour to declare **Dr. Hage Gottfried Geingob** who in accordance with Section 109 (2) of the Electoral Act has accumulated a total of 464 703 votes representing 56.3% percentage of the total votes cast in the presidential race, duly elected as President with effect from such dates determined by the Namibian Constitution.*

2. NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS

Ladies and gentlemen,

A total number of **fifteen (15) political parties** contested the National Assembly Elections. We have listed the parties alphabetically together with the results they have obtained in accordance with Section 110 of the Electoral Act which empowers the Chairperson of the Commission to announce the results received from the returning officers. *Subsections (1), (2) and (3) of the Act require the Chairperson of the Commission to make known:*

- 1. The total number of votes counted and recorded for each political party;*
- 2. The appropriate quota determined and hence the number of seats obtained in the National Assembly according to paragraph 1 of Schedule 4 of the Namibian Constitution, which in this case is 8 544*

PARTY	TOTAL VOTES	%	SEATS
All People's Party (APP)	14 644	1.8	2
Christian Democratic Voice Party (CDV)	5 841	0.7	1
Congress of Democrats (CoD)	4 654	0.6	0
Landless People's Movement (LPM)	38 956	4.7	4
Namibia Economic Freedom Fighters (NEFF)	13 580	1.7	2
Namibia Democratic Party (NDP)	4 559	0.6	0
Namibia Patriotic Front (NPF)	1 785	0.2	0
National Unity Democratic Organization of Namibia (NUDO)	16 066	1.9	2
Popular Democratic Movement (PDM)	136 576	16.6	16
Rally for Democracy and Progress (RDP)	8 953	1.1	1
Republican Party of Namibia (RP)	14 546	1.8	2
SWANU of Namibia (SWANU)	5 330	0.6	1
SWAPO Party of Namibia (SWAPO)	536 861	65.5	63
United Democratic Front of Namibia (UDF)	14 644	1.8	2
Workers Revolutionary Party (WRP)	3 212	0.4	0
TOTAL VOTES	820 227	100	96

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me at this point to express our gratitude as ECN to various role players who have assisted us in the administration of these elections, including the **Government of the Republic of Namibia** for the provision of the financial resources for the elections and the local **civic organizations** that also conducted civic and voter education.

Special word of appreciation will also go to **the Namibian Police** for maintaining peace and providing safety and protection that rendered the electoral process the degree of fairness and freedom that is required for people to vote. The police officers were always at hand to offer the needed service to the electoral body that included the protection of our materials, staff and facilities.

It would have been almost impossible to arrive at this stage without them. Indeed our men and women in uniforms are worthy of praise for their professionalism and diligence in the execution of their duties. Day and night, they were in harm's way to assist the ECN with securing both sensitive and non-sensitive electoral material during this period.

Let me also thank **the media** for consistently providing information to the voters about every stage of the implementation of our Election calendar and the heightened interest they have shown in covering the election campaign period. We commend you for performing the role you are playing in keeping the Nation informed about the national democratic process. Special thanks go to the National Broadcaster, the NBC, for pulling out all the stops to bring almost a non-stop professional live coverage of the elections.

On behalf of the Electoral Commission of Namibia, I hereby declare that the elections were conducted in accordance with the procedures as stipulated in the Electoral Act. Based on our assessment of the processes and results, the ECN declares the Presidential and National Assembly elections free, fair and credible.

I THANK YOU ALL AND MAY GOD BLESS OUR COUNTRY
