

#### **REMARKS**

By

## Dr. Gerson Sindano Commissioner of the Electoral Commission of Namibia (ECN)

### At the Occasion of the launch of the ECN Electoral Calendar and Democracy Campaign

# 07 March 2024 Mercure Hotel WINDHOEK, NAMIBIA

#### I stand on the protocol as established by the Programme Director Good afternoon your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen

I am Gerson Sindano. My task today is to give closing remarks and move a vote of thanks.

But, I would be remiss in my duty if I did not acknowledge the presence of Honourable Erastus Uutoni, the Minister of Urban and Rural Development, for gracing this occasion to officiate the launch of the Electoral Calendar and Democracy Awareness Campaign and the Service Charter of the Electoral Commission of Namibia. We truly appreciate your support for making time available out of your hectic schedule.

I often say – on the fabric of political space-time – at the centre, (at the core,) lies electoral democracy. Its ripple effects are what we feel as rules and order.

As we embark on the 2024 Electoral Calendar, let us remember the importance of active participation in the democratic process.

Voter Registration is the first step towards ensuring that our voices are heard and our values are represented.

Let us not take this privilege for granted but rather see it as a responsibility to ourselves and future generations.

Let us strive for a more informed and engaged electorate, one that is committed to upholding the principles of democracy and working towards a brighter future for this nation.

Together, let us preserve our democracy as the only means to make our voices heard and our votes count.

Democracy starts with every one of us. Let us stand together in our commitment to a stronger, more inclusive, and just democratic Namibia.

Against this background, allow me then on behalf of the Electoral Commission of Namibia, to extend a heartfelt vote of thanks for the successful launch of the Electoral Calendar, General Voter Registration, and Democracy Awareness Campaign in Namibia for the upcoming 2024 Presidential and National Assembly elections.

I also wish to thank my fellow Commissioners, Management and the entire staff of the Electoral Commission of Namibia for organising this event. Furthermore, I would like to extend gratitude to the members of the media for covering this event. Through you, the masses will be informed about

this significant milestone in the build-up to our General Registration of Voters and Polling.

Equally, I would like to thank the Mercure Hotel staff for their great hospitality.

This significant event marks a crucial step towards upholding the democratic values and principles that our country holds dear. All stakeholders involved in this launch deserve commendation for your dedication and hard work in ensuring a smooth and transparent electoral Calendar launch.

I would also like to express our gratitude to all the Namibian citizens who are eagerly waiting to be registered to vote and participate in the awareness campaign.

Your desire to want to actively participate in the democratic process is essential for shaping the future of our nation.

Let us continue to uphold the values of democracy, unity, and progress as we work towards a better and brighter future for all Namibians.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this important milestone in our democratic journey.

Together, we can build a stronger, more inclusive, and democratic Namibia.

God bless you and God bless the Republic of Namibia! I thank you.