



## REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

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

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#### ***Message of solidarity on the occasion of the "International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People"***

As the international community observes the 41<sup>st</sup> International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, I, on behalf of the Government and People of the Republic of Namibia, wish to reiterate our principled and unwavering solidarity with the Palestinian People in their quest to exercise their inalienable rights, including the right to self-determination without external interference, the right to national independence and sovereignty, and the right to return to their homes and property from which they have been displaced, in accordance with the United Nations Charter and the relevant General Assembly and Security Council Resolutions.

The Palestinian People have endured brutal oppression since the illegal occupation of their territories by Israel in 1967. Notwithstanding the repeated calls by the United Nations for an end to the occupation and the halting of all repressive practices in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, we continue to witness the unabated expansion of Israeli settlements in the West Bank and Jerusalem, the destruction of Palestinian family homes and structures, and the excessive use of force against civilian populations in defiance of International Human Rights and Humanitarian Law. In perpetuating its illegal policies the Occupying Power also refuses to lift the 11 year old blockade of Gaza, which has negatively affected the socio-economic development of that area. The International Community may, therefore, not relent in order to find a lasting and peaceful solution to the Palestine

question. We equally call upon the UN to assume its full responsibility by implementing all its resolutions and decisions on Palestine with no pre-conditions.

In this regard, we take note of and greatly appreciate the mediation efforts of Egypt to halt the escalation of violence between Palestinian factions and Israel. We also acclaim the recent election of the State of Palestine as the Chair of the Group of 77 and China. This sends a clear message of the Groups solidarity and will to stand with those who are still under the bondage of foreign occupation. It is a step towards justice and freedom over oppression.

Namibia continues to call for the full implementation of all relevant UN Resolutions on Palestine, and reiterate our commitment to the two-state solution with East Jerusalem as the capital of the State of Palestine. We further call for the unconditional admission of Palestine as a full Member of the UN and its Agencies, in order to secure its long overdue rightful place amongst the global community of nations.



Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, MP

**Deputy Prime Minister and Minister**