



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA



MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, IMMIGRATION, SAFETY AND SECURITY

DEPARTMENT OF POLICE

**Tel:** (+264 61) 2093111  
**Fax:** (+264 61) 220621  
**Enq:** Lt-Gen. Ndeitunga/ Dep. Comm. Shikwambi  
**Ref:** 8/2/6/2

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL  
PRIVATE BAG 12024  
WINDHOEK  
NAMIBIA

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**All News Media Editors  
NAMIBIA**

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

Kindly publish/broadcast the following information on your respective media

#### **SUBJECT: APPEAL TO MOTORISTS IN VIEW OF THE LIFTING OF THE COUNTRYWIDE LOCKDOWN**

1. On Thursday 30 April 2020, the President of the Republic of Namibia, H. E. Dr. Hage G. Geingob declared that the State of Emergency will continue with eased restrictive measures under Stage 2, with the lifting of the nationwide lockdown scheduled for Monday 04 May 2020 at 23:59.
2. In this regard, law enforcement in respect of the State of Emergency Regulations during this period remains in place, so as to enforce such regulations, to curb the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as to maintain law and order across the country.

3. During the lockdown period, the security cluster which is entrusted with law enforcement has noted that, although many people have been complying with guidelines and regulations issued by Government - to stay at home and only make essential journeys, some people have been found to be violating the regulations. Therefore, judging from this experience, it is expected that with the lifting of the countrywide lockdown thousands of people, particularly those who were locked out of their usual places of domicile, will be returning to their homes. This is expected to result in a congestion of the national road network.
4. It has also been noted that due to the increased visibility of the law enforcement agencies during the last two months of March and April, a few traffic violations were recorded. This ideal situation is commendable and it is our wish that the status quo will remain.
5. On behalf of the Security Cluster, the Inspector General of the Namibian Police Force would like to appeal to all road users to exercise utmost caution on the national roads as of Tuesday 05 May 2020, notwithstanding the lifting of the countrywide lockdown.
6. The nation is hereby reminded that, besides the fight against the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, we all have a duty to continue upholding the Road Traffic and Transportation Act and all other relevant laws, so as to prevent accidents, which usually results in casualties on our national roads.
7. A high-level police visibility in all 14 regions will be maintained. This will include the enforcement of a countrywide road traffic checkpoint deployment plan, including the permanent road



- traffic checkpoints and mobile checkpoints or roadblocks that will be set up within and outside towns.
8. All motorists are called upon to be mindful of protecting not only their own lives, but also those of the passengers in their motor vehicles and other road users.
  9. The recent Easter long weekend recorded only about four accidents countrywide and zero fatalities. This indicates that Namibia can be a road-traffic-accident-free country. Therefore, if all of us adhere to elementary road safety rules and regulations at all times, we can achieve such a rare accolade!
  10. Once more, all motorists are earnestly urged to use the road responsibly, to be patient and tolerant, to travel early and avoid night driving, maintain the speed limits, to not use handheld phones while driving, to always buckle up and to be mindful of the blind spots whenever intending to overtake.
  11. Additionally, motorists are reminded to adhere to the State of Emergency Regulations regarding passenger restrictions, which clearly stipulate that: a four (4) seater passenger motor vehicle must not ferry more than three (3) passengers, a seven (7) seater passenger motor vehicle must not ferry more than four (4) passengers, buses with carrying capacity of 16 passengers or more must only load half the number of passengers and only one person is permitted per motorbike, bicycle or tricycle.
  12. Traffic law enforcement officers will sternly deal with those who commit traffic offences.

13. Once more, the public is reminded that the threat of the COVID-19 pandemic is real and is not over yet. Therefore, at this trying moment we can only curb the spread of the coronavirus pandemic if all of us stand together and adhere to the State of Emergency Regulations.

- Stay at home!
- Travel only when it is strictly necessary!
- Maintain social distancing!
- Sanitize or wash your hands regularly!
- Avoid overcrowding!

Thank you for conveying this message to the broader public.

A handwritten signature in black ink, followed by the date '03/05/2020' written in a similar style.

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**Lt. Gen. Sebastian Haitota Ndeitunga, OMS**  
**Inspector-General of the Namibian Police Force**  
Email: [IGP@nampol.na](mailto:IGP@nampol.na)