



REMARKS BY

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SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ON THE OCCASION OF THE

144th IPU GENERAL DEBATE

UNDER THE THEME:

***"GETTING TO ZERO: MOBILIZING PARLIAMENTS
TO ACT ON CLIMATE CHANGE"***

MONDAY, 21 MARCH 2022

**NUSA DUA, BALI
INDONESIA**

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**Mr. President,
Secretary General of IPU,
Fellow Parliamentarians,**

Allow me, on behalf of the Parliament of Namibia, to thank the Government of Indonesia for the warm welcome extended to our delegation. Today, 21st March is our Independence Day, and we celebrate 32 years since the attainment of our freedom and independence.

The theme of this Assembly is topical and relevant to parliaments across the world. I would like to take this opportunity to share the experience of Namibia on this very important topic, as well as the efforts to address Climate Change that are being driven by the Government and the two Houses of the Namibian Parliament, both of which are represented at this meeting.

Namibia is a hot and dry land, and the fact that we have a small population spread across a vast area of land shows the challenges of human settlement in our country.

Namibia does not contribute significant amounts of greenhouse gasses to global emissions. However, our population is negatively impacted by the emissions of other countries. We have already started to experience the impact of Climate Change, with a long period of drought that lasted five to seven years in most regions of

the country and increased flooding in some areas this year, as the drought ended.

At the current rate of climate change, it is estimated that the mean annual temperatures in Namibia will increase further, by 2.7 degrees Celsius in the next two decades, and that annual rainfall will decrease.

The impact of Climate Change in Namibia is mostly felt in the agricultural sector. Namibia exports beef to Europe, Asia, and lately to the USA. Livestock production is a major income generator in the agriculture sector. However, it is threatened by climate change, and the recent drought reduced livestock numbers considerably.

The majority of Namibians rely heavily on rain-fed agriculture and livestock production, and are thus extremely vulnerable to Climate Change. It negatively impacts food security and affects the most vulnerable populations of our society, especially women and children. In Namibia, especially in our rural communities, women play a very vital role in securing food and income through food harvesting activities.

Mr. President,

I would like to emphasize the need for countries to work in partnership with each other towards developing strategies that reduce vulnerability to Climate Change and improve adaptive capacities. Our policies need to ensure the participation of women, children and other vulnerable groups and offer training and appropriate local knowledge for adaptation.

Namibia has developed a “National Climate Change Policy” , which is a legal framework meant to address climate change, vulnerable populations, and Namibia’s adaptive capacity. This policy is regularly reviewed in terms of its implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of Climate Change mitigation strategies.

Mr. President,

The Namibian President H.E Dr. Hage G. Geingob, recently introduced the Green Hydrogen initiative. This initiative aims to transform our economy and tap into the abundant resources that have a great potential for producing renewable energy. It also reiterates our commitment to tackling the impact of climate change.

The Namibian Parliament assures you of its commitment to give this subject the necessary attention to address the negative effects of Climate Change and its devastating impacts.

**I thank you,
Terima Kasih.**