

## INTERVENTION BY HONOURABLE PROF PETER H.KATJAVIVI, SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF NAMIBIA IPU 142nd ASSEMBLY -- COMMITTEE ON UN AFFAIRS 29 APRIL 2021

Good afternoon Hon Members,

I am delighted to have been given this opportunity to make a brief intervention on the subject matter before us. It was refreshing to review the Declaration on the Commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the United Nations. Indeed, it captures the relevant issues of our time.

We are also reminded of the need to ensure that our working methods need to keep pace in order to adapt to the rapidly changing social and geopolitical landscape.

Currently, at the Namibian Parliament, we are pre-occupied with the debate on our National Budget. We are all doing this, governed by the guidelines of the World Health Organisation and our Ministry of health and social services, in order to maintain social distancing. Like most countries, Namibia has to manage under lockdowns as a result of the pandemic, while striving to meet the social and economic needs of our people.

We are indeed a global community faced with challenges, amongst which is inequality in accessing the COVID vaccines. It is therefore my humble appeal to the developed world to be more responsive in giving a hand to the less privileged part of the global village in accessing these vital vaccines. Over and above this, our Parliament together with our Government continue to play a key role in working towards greater regional integration as well as being an active advocate for the welfare of the region, the African continent and the wider world.

I thank you!