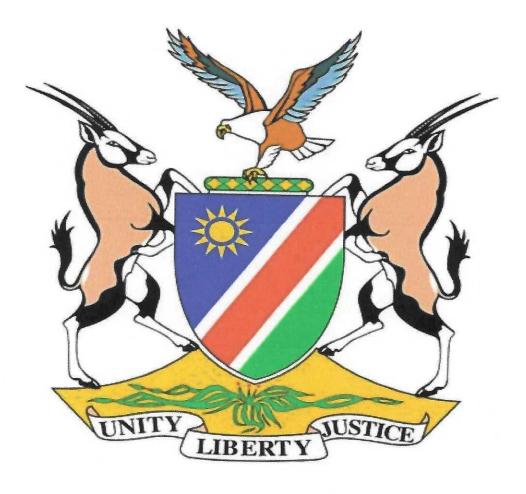
REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA



MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

UPDATE BY DR. KALUMBI SHANGULA, MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES ON COVID-19 IN NAMIBIA.

1 June 2020

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- 1. Good morning Moderator and good morning the people of Namibia. Today, the first day of June marks the last day of Stage 2 of the State of Emergency. On the 2nd of June 2020, Namibia will enter Stage 3 of the State of Emergency. During Stage 3, a number of activities are allowed to resume. This includes the resumption of face-to-face educational activities.
- 2. The decision to transit from Stage 2 to Stage 3 of the State of Emergency and for educational activities to resume is based on the following consideration:
- 2.1. The Basic Reproduction Ratio (R_0), which is the expected number of cases directly generated by one case in a susceptible population remains less than one ($R_0 < 1$);
- 2.2. There is no evidence of community transmission in Namibia;
- 2.3. All the latest new Covid-19 positive cases are imported from outside Namibia;
- 2.4. Restrictive measures in Stage 3 provide sufficient safeguards for the prevention of possible transmission;
- 2.5. Public health measures in Stage 3 are considered adequate to prevent possible transmission of infection even in cases of face-to-face education and training settings and during limited public gatherings;
- 2.6. Our epidemiological and surveillance tools are sensitive enough to predict and detect possible hotspots for Covid-19 transmission;
- 3. Notwithstanding the above, the risk of infection in a pandemic situation cannot be eliminated entirely. However, one has to weigh the probability of infection against other socio-economic imperatives and the inalienable rights to education. I would like to thank the National Union of Namibian Workers for its preparedness to partner with the Ministry of Health and Social Services in combating Covid-19. It is important that stakeholders come together and find a solution to the problem.
- 4. The Ministry of Health and Social Services has prescribed the following minimum conditions precedent for the educational institutions:
- 4.1. Provision of potable water.
- 4.2. Provision of hygienic ablution facilities.
- 4.3. Provision of amenities for hand washing and sanitazing.
- 4.4. Upon resumption, students, learners, teaching staff and management must wear masks and practice social distancing.
- 5. I am pleased to announce the recoveries of Case No 1 and Case No 2, the Romanian couple. It has taken 79 days since the couple was diagnosed with Covid-19. They were our first two cases. The couple's recoveries mark the end of the chapter involving the first 16 cases. It took 45 days before we recorded a new case. The response team is excited about this good news. We wish them well in their future endeavour.
- 6. I now give you an update on Case No 22 as of this morning. Case No 22 is still in ICU on a ventilator but in a stable condition. There is no new development in his condition since I briefed the nation yesterday.

- 7. We have recorded a new Covid-19 positive case. A 32-year old Namibian female health worker traveled to Cape Town on a bus towards the end of March 2020 and returned to Namibia by air on the 29th May 2020. She was put in quarantine upon arrival. She was tested for Covid-19 and the result came out positive. This is now Case No 25. She has a running nose but otherwise her condition is satisfactory. This is an imported case.
- 8. The status of Covid-19 in Namibian is as follow:

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•	Confirmed Cases:	25
•	Recoveries:	16
•	Active Cases:	9
•	Deaths:	0
•	Total number tested:	3 970
•	Total contacts:	378
•	Total quarantine:	2 189
•	Total number discharged:	1 570
•	Total in quarantine:	619

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