



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

OPM MEDIA RELEASE

1. Cabinet at its fourth meeting held on 19 March 2019 endorsed a proposal that due to prevailing economic situation a 2% once-off salary reduction for Political Office Bearers and Civil Servants in the Management Cadre (Grade 1-8) be implemented in the 2019/2020 Financial Year.
2. We want to emphasis the point that the 2% is a ONCE OFF voluntary contribution from all Namibians. As with the case when a state of national disaster is declared, we have individuals from both local and international partners who volunteers to make contribution. So the spirit of giving is already among us. An opportunity is now given to all Namibians who are having jobs (employed) to make their voluntary contribution.
3. Government is indeed calling upon Namibians to support national efforts aimed at assisting our compatriots who are affected by the drought to cope with the effects of the drought, as well as to increase opportunities for job creation, especially for our youth.
4. This call was also made by our President during the State of the Nation address.
5. As the President indicated in his Statement, Cabinet members have already confirmed their commitment to contribute 2 percent of their salary for a period of one year to support the said initiatives, while non-executive parliamentarians were still being consulted.

6. The Prime Minister met both the General Secretary of NAPWU and the Secretary General of NANTU to convey this message to them on 8 April 2019.
7. The other stakeholders, including those from the corporate sector, are also being consulted in this regard. The government will announce the progress on and the outcome of the various consultations at a later stage.
8. For the Political Office Bearers who have already agreed to this initiative, the process has commenced to have the money deducted from their salaries. However, for the rest of the country, consultation has to first time place and consensus reached before an effective date is determined.
9. For the public sector, this initiative is expected to raise an estimated amount based on the 117 thousand employees of the public Sector. Figures from the private sector will only become available once the consultation process is finalized.
10. The proceeds of this initiative would be ring-fenced and directed to address the plight facing our people due to drought. All funds collected by the government are subjected to audit by the Audit General.

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