



MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND COOPERATION

Tel.: (061) 2829111
Telegram: MINFORA
Fax: (061) 223937/221145/220265
E-mail: headquarters@mirco.gov.na
Enquiries: **B. Amakali**

Private Bag 13347
WINDHOEK

11 February 2019

MEDIA STATEMENT

SUBJECT: MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCES

The Ministry of International Relations and Cooperation has learnt with profound sadness of the passing of Ambassador Hanno Burkhard Rumpf.

Ambassador Rumpf has served Namibia and its people before independence and after independence with single minded dedication. He was a man of unbending principles. His bravery refused to be conscripted into the apartheid army of occupation to fight against his own people.

For this, Hanno suffered ostracism by his friends. He was unyielding and fled the country to join the liberation struggle in exile.

Ambassador Rumpf was a consummate diplomat and skillful negotiator who served the Republic of Namibia with distinction as Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany, with concurrent accreditation to the Federal Republic of Austria and the United Nations in Vienna. He also served as Ambassador to the European Union in Brussels and the Benelux countries, before retiring in 2015.

During his diplomatic tours, he endeared himself as a gentle giant both intellectually and through the warmth of his caring character to his peers and interlocuters at all levels. Through his unshaken and principled dedication and commitment to serving the people and government of Namibia, he distinguished himself as a forceful and ardent voice and promoter for socio-economic development, progress and well-being of the people of his country.

Since his retirement in 2015, he continued to impart his vast knowledge and diplomatic expertise to the Ministry and served as a member of the Namibia Association of Retired Ambassadors, until the time of his demise.

Ambassador Rumpf was a man of peace and he was dedicated to the wellbeing of the Namibian people. He will be remembered as a hardworking, friendly person, whose dedication and commitment over his career has contributed towards shaping Namibia's diplomacy and International Relations, particularly in strengthening bilateral relations between Namibia and the EU, at an economic level.

On behalf of the Ministry of International Relations and Cooperation, I extend our heartfelt condolences and deep sympathy to the bereaved family and friends of Ambassador Rumpf.

His legacy as a tireless advocate in the fight against injustice and for freedom and independence of his country, and as a distinguished Diplomat will not be forgotten.

He will be dearly missed by all of us.

May his soul rest in eternal peace.

/END

ISSUED BY:

Hon. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah

**Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of International Relations and
Cooperation**