



Republic of Botswana

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **STATE VISIT TO BOTSWANA BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA, HIS EXCELLENCY DR. HAGE GEINGOB 11-12 JULY 2016**

**Gaborone, 7 July 2016:** The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation wishes to inform that His Excellency Dr. Hage Geingob, President of the Republic of Namibia, will undertake a two-day State Visit to Botswana from 11 to 12 July 2016.

During the visit, His Excellency President Dr. Hage Geingob will hold bilateral talks with His Excellency Lieutenant General Dr. Seretse Khama Ian Khama, President of the Republic of Botswana. The two leaders are expected to deliberate on bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual interest. The visit is expected to further strengthen the excellent relations that subsist between the two countries.

Botswana and Namibia share long-standing historical, cultural and family ties, which have stood the test of time. They also enjoy close collaboration at the bilateral, regional international fora, underpinned by their commitment to democratic ideals.

Since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1990, the two countries have made great strides in deepening and expanding the scope of bilateral cooperation in areas such as agriculture, defence and security, shared water courses, transport and communications, tourism development, education, immigration, mining and energy issues, just to mention a few. The increased collaboration between the respective sectors of the two countries has been facilitated by high-level visits and the convening of bilateral mechanisms such as the Joint Permanent Commission on Cooperation (JPCC) and the Joint Permanent Commission on Defence and Security (JPCDS).

While in Botswana, His Excellency President Geingob is expected to address the Botswana Parliament and also participate at the official opening of the Botswana-Namibia Business Seminar.

His Excellency President Geingob will be accompanied by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of International Relations and Cooperation; Ministers of Mines and Energy and Agriculture, Water and Forest; and other Senior Government Officials. The President is expected to depart for Namibia on 12 July 2016.

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