



## Republic of Namibia

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### MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTRY AND TOURISM

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**Press Release**  
**(For Immediate Release)**

15 December 2020

Editors and Journalists

#### **MEFT response to Fort Namutoni decay**

The Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism has learned with serious concern through social media of the unacceptable deterioration and decay of Fort Namutoni at the Namibia Wildlife Resorts Namutoni facility in Etosha National Park. Fort Namutoni is a national monument and an important tourist attraction within Etosha National Park.

Namibia Wildlife Resorts is now a commercial entity under the Ministry of Public Enterprises and it is still the only company allowed to operate in national parks in Namibia in terms of the Namibia Wildlife Resorts Company Act of 1998 (Act No. 3 of 1998). As the custodian of national parks, the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism condemns in the strongest possible terms the mismanagement of Fort Namutoni as well as the uncaring attitude and negligence of Namibia Wildlife Resorts management and staff responsible.

The Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism has instructed the Deputy Director of Etosha National Park to take the company to task and to ensure the rehabilitation of the site and that general environmental management and cleanliness at the Namutoni Resort is maintained at all times. Furthermore Ministerial officials responsible for the management of national parks have been instructed to ensure compliance with good environmental management practices and basic cleanliness at all resorts in line with the Nature Conservation Ordinance No. 4 of 1975, Environmental Management Act, 2007 (Act No. 7 of 2007) and other relevant policies of the Ministry.

The Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism is committed to ensuring that the highest standards of management are followed in our national parks. In this regard, the current situation will not be tolerated and the Ministry will not hesitate to institute alternative arrangements at Namutoni and other resorts in national parks should the current situation continue to prevail.

End

Issues By:

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