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For immediate release

Windhoek

Halting of Census Mapping exercise in Namibia due to Covid-19 outbreak

Background

The Namibia Statistics Agency is busy conducting the Census Mapping exercise. The purpose of census mapping is to demarcate the entire Namibia into uniquely defined units of Enumeration Areas (EAs). The EAs provide an accurate national geographic frame to conduct censuses which in this case is the Census 2021. In addition, mapping will collect detailed information regarding the use of built up structures, which cannot be obtained during an office exercise.

Mapping started in October 2019 and will run until August 2020.

As per the directive from the President of the Republic of Namibia, Dr. Hage Geingob, calling for a State of Emergency because of the Covid-19 outbreak, the NSA would hereby like to inform the nation that Census Mapping has been put on hold, until after 30 days, or at least until the situation stabilises.

This halting of this activity is necessitated by the fact that Mapping field staff often a times come into close contact with household members when interviewing. This does not only pose as a health risk to the NSA field staff but to the respondents as well.

Progress of Census Mapping

On the progress of the work so far, Census Mapping has been completed in the Zambezi Region and the team is currently busy with the Khomas area.

Logistical issues such as vehicle acquisition has been resolved and the rollout to the country is due to commence as soon as the conditions allow

SMS in the Namibian on status of Census Mapping.

The NSA would also like to inform the nation that the Census Mapping is very much under control and is well on track.

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