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Message of Condolence: Founding President Sam Nujoma

The Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR) extends its profoundest condolences to the family, the Namibian people, and the government of Namibia on the passing of our Founding President, Dr. Sam Shafiishuna Nujoma.

Sam Nujoma played a crucial leadership role in Namibia's protracted liberation struggle and laid a solid basis for a strongly independent and democratic nation. His life-long dedication to the country's sovereignty and the upliftment of its people will be remembered as a defining chapter in our history.

At the IPPR, we believe that a robust civil society, a free press, and open and informed debate are vital for Namibia's economic and social progress and development as a successful nation. We are deeply thankful for the foundational steps taken during President Nujoma's time in office to espouse an inclusive Namibian identity, in order to heal deeply entrenched societal divisions, establish Namibia's strong democratic institutions, and uphold constitutionality.

His invaluable contributions to nation-building and our country's advancement will continue to be appreciated, studied and debated as part of our evolving journey.

During this time of mourning, we stand in solidarity with all Namibians as we reflect on his legacy and the enduring impact of his sound leadership.

May he rest in peace.

Monica Koep IPPR Chairperson Issued on behalf of the IPPR Board