



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**JUNE 18, 2019**

**WINDHOEK**

### **TAXI DEMONSTRATION, JUNE 18, 2019**

Government, being committed to the development of the taxi industry in the country, noted the request by the Namibia Transport & Taxi Union (NTTU), for a peaceful taxi demonstration at State House, on June 18, 2019, regarding problems facing NTTU members in the taxi industry.

A meeting was scheduled in March, 2019, by the Office of the President with Mr. Werner Januarie and NTTU management to look into the plight of taxi drivers. The meeting was called off following unfortunate media comments attributed to Mr. Januarie.

Eventually, the line Ministries of Works and Transport, and Safety and Security were delegated to meet with the NTTU leadership and explore sustainable solutions to the problems of taxi drivers. However, NTTU insisted on a taxi demonstration in Windhoek.

The request for a taxi demonstration was then granted to NTTU by the Namibian Police Force (NAMPOL) in accordance with the relevant laws, and on condition the demonstration complies with all relevant

requirements such as being peaceful, not in proximity of Statehouse, and taking place along designated routes.

Government remains dedicated to provide a conducive platform for taxi drivers to air their grievances in a peaceful, problem solving manner. To this end, Government has started discussions with stakeholders in the taxi industry representing both taxi and bus drivers and owners, who are equally committed towards a peaceful and permanent solution. These discussions will continue until the pressing issues in the industry have been addressed, in the best interests of the taxi industry and the Namibian society.

Once again, NTTU and others are called upon to come on board, to join Government and City officials, and the Police, to positively contribute towards the healthy growth and development of the taxi industry.

**ISSUED BY: MINISTRY OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT**