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16 January 2024

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **UCCSA Statement on Unmasking Germany's Questionable Alliances: Namibia's Resolute Stand for Justice**

#### **Introduction**

In the current landscape of international justice, a notable development unfolds as Namibia rejects Germany's controversial alignment with Israel in a case initiated by the Republic of South Africa. This principled stance extends beyond the specific legal dispute, bringing to light a broader truth – Germany's historical transgressions raise doubts about its moral authority to adjudicate matters related to genocide. As survivors of German colonial oppression, we question the authenticity of Germany's backing for Israel.

Simultaneously, it is crucial to recognize the potential irreparable damage to the historical stance of the Jewish people, who have long championed the prevention of genocides anywhere, to any people. Israel risks compromising this principled position by seemingly turning a deaf ear to the many voices of reason around the world advocating for alternative approaches to the Palestine-Israel stalemate. The concern is that by proceeding without heeding these calls, Israel may inadvertently become a perpetrator of genocide, tarnishing the very principles it has historically sought to uphold.

As Namibia takes a firm position against Germany's involvement, we must critically assess the sincerity behind Germany's support for Israel. Is it a legitimate commitment to justice, or a subtle endeavour to shape the narrative and implicate Israel, mirroring the dark past of German history? The looming specter of historical culpability prompts unsettling inquiries into Germany's true intentions in aligning itself with Israel.

#### **Germany's Dark Past: A Moral Abyss**

Namibia's resolute rejection of Germany's involvement stems from a history engraved in blood – the genocidal horrors inflicted upon the Herero and Nama peoples during the German colonial era. The shadows of this gruesome past loom large, casting a damning light on Germany's claim to any moral authority in discussions surrounding genocide. The scars of yesteryear, borne by those directly affected, are a corroboration to the atrocities committed by German colonial forces.

## **The Danger of Germany's Influence on International Justice**

Namibia's rejection is not merely a local dispute; it serves as a stark warning to the international community. Allowing a nation with a murky historical record to influence matters of justice poses a grave risk. If the world succumbs to Germany's sway, the consequences for global justice could be dire. The fear is that decisions influenced by a nation with a history of genocide might compromise the pursuit of justice, especially in contemporary cases such as the plight of the Palestinian people.

## **Namibia's Call for Transparency: Exposing Germany's True Colors**

Namibia's resolute rejection of Germany's questionable alliances has implications far beyond the legal battleground. As victims of historical genocides, we earnestly hope that the Namibian government has discerned a crucial lesson about the German mindset, racial attitudes, and Germany's stance on international justice. The propensity for genocide denial appears deeply ingrained in the German identity as if it were another facet of their national character. The stark reality is that for Germany, confronting and acknowledging historical atrocities seems to be an insurmountable challenge. This inherent denial is not merely an evasion of responsibility; it is, disturbingly, entwined with the very fabric of German identity, reflecting a troubling aspect of their historical narrative. Namibia's experience should serve as a cautionary tale, urging vigilance against the insidious nature of genocide denial and challenging the very essence of Germany's commitment to international justice.

## **Commendation for the Republic of South Africa**

Amidst these challenges, the government of the Republic of South Africa deserves commendation for its unwavering commitment to justice and morality. Taking a stand against powerful alliances in support of the weak is a testament to their courage. Genocide, under no circumstances, should be justified, and South Africa's stance emphasizes the importance of holding nations accountable for their actions, regardless of historical provocations or claims of self-defense.

## **Ethical Imperatives: Rejecting Genocide as Retribution**

The principle that one wrong action does not justify another is a cornerstone of global ethics, underscoring the understanding that past provocations or claims of self-defense cannot serve as justifications for committing genocide. The atrocities of yesterday, no matter how grievous, should not pave the way for the commission of heinous crimes today. Genocide, as an egregious offense against humanity, stands as a stark reminder that the ends can never justify the means. The international community upholds the universal truth that two wrongs do not make a right, emphasizing the imperative to seek justice and accountability through ethical and lawful means, rather than succumbing to a cycle of retribution and brutality.

## **A Plea for Justice and Accountability**

As we navigate these treacherous waters, Namibia's resolute rejection of Germany's questionable alliances and its unwavering commitment to justice represent a clarion call for the world to heed. This is not merely a legal battle; it is a fight against historical amnesia, manipulation, and the compromise of international justice. As we bear witness to these pivotal

moments, let us rally behind Namibia's call for accountability and ensure that justice prevails over the shadows of the past.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, as we reflect on the principles of justice and ethical conduct, it is incumbent upon governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), faith communities, and individuals of goodwill to draw inspiration from the exemplary stances taken by South Africa and Namibia. The ongoing Israeli campaign of violence, resulting in the tragic loss of over twenty-three thousand Palestinian lives, demands urgent attention and condemnation. It is a call to action for the global community to advocate for an immediate end to the suffering of innocent civilians, including women, children, the elderly, and those living with disabilities. Let the voices of justice and humanity rise above geopolitical considerations, echoing the moral imperative to safeguard the sanctity of life and uphold the dignity of every individual. It is through collective efforts and unwavering commitment to the principles of peace and justice that we can strive for a world where violence and oppression are replaced by compassion, understanding, and the pursuit of a just and lasting peace.

**Rev Rupert I Hambira**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rthambira' with a stylized flourish at the end.

**President of the United Congregational Church of Southern Africa**