



Office of the President

April 20, 2021

His Excellency Raúl Castro Ruz
Former First Secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba
HAVANA

Your Excellency,

At this hour of a new dawn in the history of the great people of Cuba, the people of Namibia are moved by Your Excellency's inspiring message at the 8th Congress of the PCC when you said, "As for me, my task as first secretary of the Central Committee of the Party concludes, with the satisfaction of having fulfilled my mission and confidence in the future of the country".

Following your retirement as First Secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba (PCC) at the 8th Congress of the PCC, I have therefore the utmost honour to write to Your Excellency on behalf of the people and Government of the Republic of Namibia, as well as the leadership, and rank and file of the SWAPO Party, to offer our profound felicitations and tributes for your peerless dedication, supreme work-ethic, admirable patriotism and outstanding legacy.

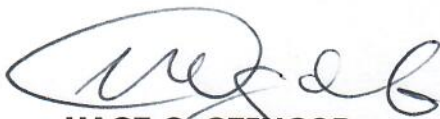
Although Your Excellency's retirement is a nostalgic moment for many of us who have come to know the Republic of Cuba and its heroic people as the epitome of socialist revolution and resistance to imperialism, we respect this decision which, knowing Your Excellency's patriotic nature, was done in the interest of the Communist Party of Cuba and the Cuban people at large.

This characteristic selfless decision is a testament of Your Excellency's love for Cuba and its people. Since the historic landing of the Granma on the shores of your motherland in 1956, Your Excellency has lived a life of true revolutionary who is dedicated to the freedom of all Cubans and breaking of the suffocating bonds of selfish hegemonic forces across the world.

Indeed, Your Excellency has fulfilled a mission that few human beings could dream of and even fewer could accomplish. Today, all Cubans can look to the future with confidence as they stand proudly amongst the world of free and sovereign nations due in part, to Your Excellency's exceptional leadership, having taken over the mantle from your great brother and leader of the Cuban Revolution, Comandante Fidel.

As Your Excellency prepares to retreat from the demands of leadership we once more salute you and wish you continued health and strength. May the spirit of revolution that burns deep within Your Excellency's heart and soul, remain as strong as ever.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurance of my highest consideration and esteem.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Hage G. Geingob', with a large, stylized initial 'H' and a long, sweeping underline.

**HAGE G. GEINGOB
PRESIDENT**