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INVITATION

To a Civil Society briefing meeting on the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) and the Baseline Country Self-Assessment Report (CSAR)

DATE: Friday, 03 September 2021

TIME: 11:00 to 13:00

VENUE: ZOOM

The African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) is a Specialized Agency of the African Union (AU), initiated in 2002 and established in 2003 by the African Union in the framework of the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).

Namibia joined the APRM on 28 January 2017.

The APRM is a tool for sharing experiences, reinforcing best practices, identifying deficiencies, and assessing capacity-building needs to foster policies, standards and practices that lead to political stability, high economic growth, sustainable development and accelerated sub-regional and continental economic integration.

Member countries to the APRM undertake self-monitoring in all aspects of their governance and socio-economic development. AU stakeholders participate in the self-assessment of all branches of government – executive, legislative and judicial – as well as the private sector, civil society and the media. The APRM Review Process gives member states a space for national dialogue on governance and socio-economic indicators and an opportunity to build consensus on the way forward.

Under the auspices of the APRM Namibia is currently in the process of finalising its **Baseline Country Self-Assessment Report (CSAR)**. The APRM process consists of FIVE (5) interrelated stages, which are defined in the APRM Base Document.

Namibia is busy with **Stage One** which is the preparatory phase both at the level of the continental APRM Secretariat and at the national level. Under the direction of the APRM Panel, the APRM Secretariat forwards to the country to be reviewed, a questionnaire covering the FOUR (4) focus areas of the APRM which are:

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Graham Hopwood (IPPR); Toni Hancox (LAC); Zoë Titus (NMT)*

- Democracy and Political Governance
- Economic Governance and Management
- Corporate Governance
- Broad-based Sustainable Socio-Economic Development

Under the APRM the country (e.g. Namibia) conducts a self-assessment exercise on the basis of the abovementioned questionnaire. During the same period, the continental APRM Secretariat develops a background document on the country. This is done through desk research and gathering available, current and pertinent information on the governance and development status of the country in the four assessment areas.

According to the APRM's own documents Civil Society is supposed to play a pivotal role in the Self-Assessment process. Between 7th June and 13th July 2021 so-called Validation Workshops on the draft CSAR were conducted by the Namibian National Governing Council (NGC). Unfortunately Civil Society was not well represented.

AGENDA for the meeting on Friday:

1. Briefing Civil Society on the Namibian process so far with the focus on **Stage One**
2. How Civil Society can become more involved in the process
3. Getting to know our Civil Society representatives at the NGC

Join the conversation by clicking on this link

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84400820132?pwd=QWJPNTUxem4rNE9BWVhzWEJqbHJOQT09>

Meeting ID: 844 0082 0132

Passcode: 764822

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