



MINISTRY OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE

Fellow Namibians

It is with a heavy heart that I address a deeply troubling incident involving a man alleged to be the father of a minor girl who allegedly made her smoke hookah pipe, popularly known as “hubbly bubbly”. This incident is currently under active investigation by the Namibian Police, and I want to assure the public that the Ministry is treating this matter with the utmost seriousness and urgency.

The safety, health, and well-being of our children are paramount, and any act that endangers their physical or emotional welfare is completely unacceptable. As custodians of child protection, we condemn in the strongest terms any form of child abuse, neglect, or exploitation. We are working closely with law enforcement authorities to ensure that justice is served and that the rights of this vulnerable child are protected.

Out of respect for the privacy of the involved minor and to preserve the integrity of the ongoing investigation, we are unable to disclose further details at this time. However, I want to reassure the public that the Ministry remains committed to safeguarding the rights of all children and will take decisive action against any individuals found responsible for harming them.

I also urge every member of our society to remain vigilant and report any suspected cases of child abuse or endangerment. Together, we can foster a safe, nurturing environment where every child can thrive, free from harm and neglect.

Let us stand united in our responsibility to protect and uphold the dignity and rights of our children. We owe it to them to create a future where they are safe, loved and valued.

End

Issued by:

Dr. Emma Kantema, MP

Minister of Gender Equality and Child Welfare

