

COMMUNIQUE ON THE OCCASION OF THE OFFICIAL VISIT OF H. E. CELSO AMORIM, MINISTER OF DEFENCE OF THE FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC OF BRAZIL (19-20 FEBRUARY 2013)

1. H. E. Celso Amorim arrived in Windhoek, Namibia on the 19th February 2013 for a two-day working visit at the invitation of the Namibian Minister of Defence, Honourable Nahas Angula. During his visit, H.E. Amorim also paid a courtesy call on H.E. President Hifikepunye Pohamba, Prime Minister Dr. Hage Geingob and the Hon. Alpheus !Naruseb, Minister of Lands and Resettlement.
2. Minister Angula and Minister Amorim held a tete-a-tete meeting. The Namibian and Brazilian defence delegations headed by the respective Defence Ministers, Honourable Nahas Angula and H. E. Celso Amorim, then proceeded for discussions on ways of strengthening defence cooperation between the two countries.
3. The discussions were held in a cordial and friendly manner reflective of the existing excellent relations between the two countries.
4. The two delegations expressed satisfaction with progress made on the existing defence cooperation between the two countries based on the existing Defence Cooperation Agreement.
5. The two delegations acknowledged that the top programme of cooperation between the two countries is on the navy, including training of Namibian naval students in Brazil and the secondment of Brazilian officers to the Namibian Navy in Namibia for advice and training.
6. The two delegations agreed to strengthen the existing cooperation, especially the Navy Programme.
7. Minister Amorim confirmed that the oceanic patrol vessel *Apa* will pay a visit at the Port of Walvis Bay in the upcoming month of April, enabling both Navies to further their cooperation in a range of sea operations.
8. The two delegations agreed to expand cooperation to other Defence Force services-the Army and the Air Force.

9. The two delegations agreed to work together at strategic level to maintain the South Atlantic as a zone of peace, to prevent illicit activities such as illegal fishing, piracy and drug trafficking.
10. The two delegations agreed to cooperate in different areas of Defence Industry to build operational and productive capacities of the two countries.
11. The two delegations agreed to continue to exchange ideas for mutually beneficial cooperation, especially through participation in military trade fairs such as LAAD and joint exercises.
12. The two delegations undertook to examine possibilities for cooperation between Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the Union of South American Nations (Unasul).
13. The Brazilian delegation invited the Namibian side to participate at the LAAD Defence & Security – Defence and Security International Exhibition – in Brazil.

Issued at Windhoek, Namibia, on Wednesday, 20 February 2013.

End.