



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE FISHERIES WATER AND LAND REFORM

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**MEDIA RELEASE
(For Immediate Release)**

FMD CONTROL AREA DECLARED IN //KHARAS REGION

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Land Reform has officially declared a Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) control area within the FMD Free zone of Namibia in the //Kharas Region, effective immediately. This measure is aimed at safeguarding Namibia's FMD-free status and protecting access to international export markets.

The declaration follows a notice published in the **Government Gazette on 17 March 2026**. The designated FMD control area includes:

- A band covering two adjacent farms or extending 10 km south of the Mata Mata border post up to the Orange River;
- A band covering two adjacent farms or extending 10 km north of the Orange River;
- Entire communal areas/settlements within the zone;
- Any area north of the Orange River extending westward to the Atlantic Ocean.

It is important to note that this declaration should not create an assumption that there is an outbreak of foot and mouth disease in Namibia. The country continues to maintain its FMD-free status without vaccination, which enables access to premium international markets. The precautionary declaration is intended to prevent the introduction of foot and mouth disease, particularly in light of increased activity in neighbouring countries.

Farmers and livestock owners within the declared control area are required to comply with strict disease control measures to safeguard livestock health, protect livelihoods, and preserve Namibia's international trade status.

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Issued by

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