

BREAKING NEWS

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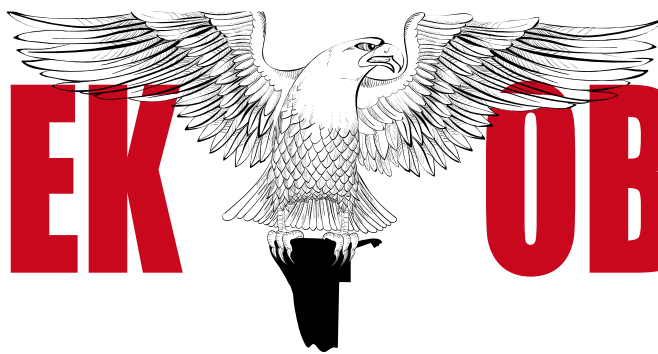
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OBSERVER

DEMOCRACY IN THE MIRROR

NNN hails green scheme gains amid food security push



Edelweiss launches nonstop Zurich-Windhoek route



Banking sector remains an attractive investment destination

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PARAGON MEDIA

WEDNESDAY 3 JUNE 2026

Adultery no longer grounds for divorce

RENTHIA KAIMBI
Staff Writer

...as 'no-fault' divorce law takes effect today

Namibian spouses can no longer be forced to prove adultery, cruelty or desertion to end their marriage, according to a guidance note issued by Judge President Petrus Damaseb to the public on the new divorce dispensation.

The guidance note, dated 2 June 2026, explains that the long-awaited Dissolution of Marriages Act, 2024 (DoMA) comes into effect on 3 June 2026 (today), abolishing a fault-based system that had previously governed divorce, thereby replacing it with a single ground of "irretrievable breakdown of the marriage."

According to the document, the DoMA represents one of the most significant reforms in the history of Namibia's family law system, seeking to modernise divorce law, reduce unnecessary hostility,



The emphasis of the new law is no longer on identifying which spouse is morally blameworthy for the collapse of the marriage. The focus is now whether the marriage relationship has disintegrated beyond realistic restoration.

simplify procedures and promote amicable resolution of disputes. It further states that the new dispensation seeks to recognise the realities of marital breakdown and ensure that divorce proceedings are conducted consistently with

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Judge President Petrus Damaseb



Fillemon Wise Immanuel
Photos: Contributed

Swakop pushes for major housing, infrastructure expansion

The Municipality of Swakopmund is advancing a series of housing, land servicing and infrastructure projects aimed at accommodating the town's rapid growth, while creating new investment opportunities and addressing housing needs in informal settlements.

Swakopmund Municipality chief executive officer Alfeus Benjamin outlined progress on the town's long-term development agenda under the 20-Year Structure Plan (2020-2040), which was approved by the National Planning Board (NPB) and the Ministry of Urban and Rural Development (MURD) in October 2022

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Calls grow for new ACC boss

ALEXER NAMUNDJEMBO
Staff Writer

With the tenure of Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) Director-General Paulus Noa set to end this month, a growing number of voices are calling for new leadership at the agency.

Noa, who has led the ACC since its inception in February 2006, is completing his fourth five-year term later this month.

His anticipated departure has opened a debate over the future direction of the institution. Former member of parliament Hidipo Hamata said the leadership change presents "a clear opportunity to strengthen" the Commission. Speaking to the *Windhoek Observer*, Hamata endorsed legal practitioner Norman Tjombe for the role, describing him as "a principled, competent, and highly capable legal mind who could bring renewed credibility, independence, and

firmness to the Commission." "At this stage in the country's anti-corruption efforts, leadership must be guided by integrity, courage, and a proven commitment to the rule of law," Hamata said. "Appointing someone of his calibre would send a strong signal of seriousness in the fight against corruption." The call was echoed by Affirmative Repositioning member of parliament Job Amupanda, who confirmed on Tuesday that his

party is engaging government, particularly Prime Minister Elijah Ndurare, to ensure the positions of Director-General and Deputy Director-General of the ACC are advertised. "They are coming to an end in June/July. They are supposed to be advertised long ago," Amupanda wrote on social media. He said engagements so far are "good and promising in national interest," but added that "politics being politics we will see the actual

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Paulus Noa



Hidipo Hamata - Photos: Contributed

Calls grow for new ACC boss

FROM PAGE 1

results.”
Noa was reappointed by the National Assembly in July 2021 following a six-month acting appointment. His current term marks 20 consecutive years in the role.
Policy analyst Kleopas Shivute agreed that the government should have already advertised Noa’s position.
“He has done his part. I’ll be disappointed if he is reappointed again,” Shivute told the *Windhoek Observer* on Tuesday.
“The institution was dying under him and we need someone who can revive it and bring back the public’s trust.”
Shivute added that there are capable candidates who may wish to apply



At this stage in the country’s anti-corruption efforts, leadership must be guided by integrity, courage, and a proven commitment to the rule of law -Hidipo Hamata

for the position.
The push for new leadership comes amid ongoing public debate over the ACC’s effectiveness and calls for greater transparency in appointments to key oversight bodies.

Adultery no longer grounds for divorce

FROM PAGE 1

constitutional values and the best interests of children.
The Act also empowers Magistrate Courts to grant divorces for the first time – a power previously reserved exclusively for the High Court.
Justice and Labour Relations minister Fillemon Wise Immanuel had earlier given the Judiciary the month of May for “housekeeping”, warning that otherwise, the Act would commence without the necessary court procedures in place.
According to senior judicial sources, the High Court has finalised its new Rules of Court and is ready. However, the magistracy has yet to publicly confirm its preparedness for today’s start date.
The guidance note makes clear that the DoMA applies only to divorce proceedings instituted on or after 3 June 2026.
Any divorce proceeding already pending before that date will continue to be governed by the previous legal framework and the old Rules of Court until finalisation.
This means that spouses who filed for divorce before today cannot benefit from the “no-fault” provisions or the simplified application procedures, and their cases will still require proof of matrimonial offences such as adultery or cruelty.
Under the previous legal framework, a spouse seeking divorce had to rely on recognised matrimonial offences.
The DoMA abolishes the old

fault-based grounds of divorce, and the only ground upon which a court may now dissolve a marriage is “irretrievable breakdown of the marriage.”
The Act defines “irretrievable breakdown” as the disintegration of the marriage relationship to the extent that there is no reasonable prospect of restoration.
The court must be satisfied that the marriage relationship has broken down completely and that there is no realistic prospect that the spouses will restore a normal marital relationship.
“The emphasis of the new law is no longer on identifying which spouse is morally blameworthy for the collapse of the marriage. The focus is now whether the marriage relationship has disintegrated beyond realistic restoration,” the document states.
It further directs courts to avoid reverting to fault-finding or moral condemnation, but also warns that courts are not expected to merely rubber-stamp divorce proceedings without a proper factual foundation.
A key reform outlined in the notes, is that divorce proceedings may now be instituted either by way of action proceedings or by way of application proceedings.
Where both spouses jointly seek divorce and there is no genuine dispute, the guidance note confirms that the proceedings must be brought by way of application, described as a simpler, faster and less hostile process.
The parties act jointly as applicants, the matter proceeds on affidavit, and no respondent is cited.
Where a spouse opposes the divorce, the document indicates they may do

so only on the basis of a possibility of reconciliation.
The court is required to postpone the matter for three months, but only if the opposing spouse satisfies the court that there is no possibility of harm to the other spouse or the children.
If after three months the initiating party still wishes to proceed, the court is required by law to grant a divorce order, with no discretion unless custody disputes remain unresolved.
On division of assets, the document states that the court is now empowered to make just and equitable redistribution orders irrespective of the marital regime.
The court may consider the duration of the marriage, direct and indirect financial contributions, domestic contributions, childcare responsibilities, and any other relevant factor.
Domestic work and caregiving will now be recognised as important contributions within a marriage, while misconduct is generally irrelevant to redistribution unless it adversely affected the financial resources of the parties.
The new act also imposes strict disclosure obligations, requiring litigants to fully set out their assets and liabilities as part of their pleadings, with failure to comply constituting a criminal offence.
Under the DoMA, privacy protections will be strengthened, prohibiting publication of information that reveals the identity of a child or a party, with contravention attracting a fine of up to N\$100,000 or five years’ imprisonment.

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NNN hails green scheme gains amid food security push

PATIENCE MAKWELE
Staff Writer

President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah has welcomed improved agricultural production at government-supported green schemes, describing the progress as a positive step toward strengthening national food security and rural economic development.

The president made the remarks during her visit to the Shadikongoro and Ndonga Linena green schemes in the Kavango East Region on Tuesday, where farm managers reported increased crop yields and improved operational performance compared to previous seasons.

At the Shadikongoro Green Scheme, assistant farm manager Lima Kativa told the president that despite exceptionally heavy rainfall experienced during the current season, the project had recorded encouraging results.

Kativa said the sunflower crop had already been successfully harvested,

while expectations remain high for a strong maize harvest in the coming weeks.

Management also revealed plans to diversify production during the next planting season through the cultivation of watermelon, pumpkin, cabbage and butternut in an effort to expand the scheme's agricultural output.

While all center pivots are currently operational, management highlighted aging and inadequate farming equipment as one of the major obstacles limiting the scheme's full production potential.

The president later visited the Ndonga Linena Green Scheme, where farm manager Janno Rentel reported that the project expects one of its strongest harvests to date.

According to Rentel, maize production is projected to reach approximately 4,754 metric tons from 574 hectares under cultivation during the 2025/26 summer cropping season.



President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah at the Ndonga Linena Green Scheme in the Kavango East region yesterday. - Photo: Contributed

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invests in the people behind Namibia's agriculture — equipping small stock, communal, and commercial farmers alike with the knowledge and skills to improve productivity and build more sustainable enterprises.

Feedmaster's involvement in organised agriculture further demonstrates that the company thinks beyond its bottom line. Through engagement with industry bodies and farming associations, Feedmaster helps shape the standards and strategies that drive the sector forward.

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NNN hails green scheme gains amid food security push

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The projected harvest represents a significant increase from the previous season and positions Ndonga Linena as the largest contributor within the national green scheme program this season.

Economic commentator Alex Shoopala Murangi said the improved performance of green scheme projects demonstrates the importance of investing in agricultural productivity as part of Namibia's broader food security strategy.

"Projects such as Ndonga Linena show that with proper management and investment, green schemes can make a meaningful contribution to reducing Namibia's reliance on imported food products. Increased maize production is particularly important because it strengthens domestic food supply and enhances economic resilience," Murangi said. He cautioned, however, that production gains alone would not guarantee long-term success.

"The government must ensure that increased output is supported by efficient transportation networks, market access and adequate agricultural infrastructure. Producing more food is only one part of the equation. Farmers must also be able to move their produce to markets efficiently and profitably," he said. Murangi added that the decision by Ndonga Linena to finance part of its winter cropping program through internally generated revenue was a positive sign.

"When a farming project begins reinvesting its own earnings into future production, it signals progress toward financial sustainability. That is ultimately what government-supported agricultural projects should be striving for," he said.

Despite the positive outlook, Rentel said the scheme continues to face challenges related to high transportation costs and limited access to reliable markets for locally produced maize.

He added that preparations for the winter cropping season are already underway, with 196 hectares planted under wheat and 22 hectares under oats.

The winter cropping program is being financed from revenue generated by the farm itself, a development management says reflects improved financial sustainability.

Nandi-Ndaitwah commended both green scheme management and small-scale farmers for their contribution to agricultural production and employment creation.

She said the projects continue to play an important role in supporting livelihoods through permanent, seasonal and small-scale farming opportunities while contributing to the country's food security objectives. The president also called on the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Land Reform to continue providing support to green schemes to ensure they achieve their full productive capacity.

"I am going back happy," Nandi-Ndaitwah said after concluding her tour of agricultural projects in the region.

During engagements with small-scale farmers, the president encouraged producers to remain committed to food production, saying increased local agricultural output remains critical to Namibia's food security agenda. The Kavango East visits form part of a broader national tour of government-supported agricultural projects, which has also included the Etunda Green Scheme in the Omusati Region, the Ekoka Brownfield Green Scheme in the Ohangwena Region, the Sikondo Green Scheme in the Kavango West Region and the Uvhungu-Vhungu Green Scheme in the Kavango East Region.



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Edelweiss launches nonstop Zurich-Windhoek route

ALEXER NAMUNDJEMBO

Staff Writer

Swiss carrier Edelweiss has launched non-stop flights between Zurich and Windhoek, starting with two weekly services and adding a third frequency in July to meet rising demand.

The inaugural flight landed at Hosea Kutako International Airport on Monday at around 19h30 with 285 passengers on board, according to the Namibia Airports Company (NAC). The return flight to Zurich departed later that evening with 261 passengers.

Edelweiss marked the start of what it called “a special new chapter” with a cake ceremony and ribbon-cutting at Zurich Airport. The airline said it will operate the route using its new Airbus A350.

“From now on we fly nonstop from Zurich to the capital Windhoek,” the airline stated on social media. The carrier stated it is betting on Namibia’s tourism appeal, citing “endless desert landscapes, fascinating safari experiences and a starlit sky that is among the most impressive in the world.”

Edelweiss will fly the Zurich–Windhoek route on Mondays and Fridays. A third weekly frequency on Wednesdays will begin on 15 July 2026, the NAC confirmed. NAC chief executive officer and Air Connect Namibia chairperson Bisey /Uirab described the expansion as “a strong vote of confidence” in the country and the route’s long-term potential. With the addition, the Lufthansa Group, which includes Edelweiss and Discover Airlines, will operate

13 direct weekly flights between its European hubs and Windhoek, providing more than 152,000 annual seats.

“The group will contribute more than 152,000 annual seats, further strengthening Namibia’s position as a key access point to European markets,” the NAC said.

The extra flights are timed to coincide with the peak tourism season from July to October, serving key tourist destinations including Etosha National Park, Sossusvlei, Swakopmund and the Skeleton Coast.

Switzerland remained one of Namibia’s key European markets in 2025, with about 24,200 two-way passengers recorded, according to NAC data.

Namibia’s international connections have expanded in recent years. The number of direct or non-stop international destinations is projected to rise from 10 in 2023 to 17 by mid-2026.

Affirmative Repositioning Member of Parliament Vaino Hangula welcomed the additional flight, calling it a vote of confidence in Namibia as a tourism destination. “We must position ourselves to derive real lasting economic value from this opportunity, which is to convert more tourist arrivals into local jobs, regional economic activity and stronger investment interest in Namibia,” Hangula said.

Air Connect Namibia, established in 2024, is a joint initiative led by the Namibia Airports Company and industry partners to expand air routes and strengthen international connections.

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NOTIFICATION AND CALL FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF 18 TELECOMMUNICATION BASE-TRANSCIVER STATION (BTS) TOWERS ON SELECTED SITES COUNTRYWIDE, NAMIBIA

D & P Engineers and Environmental Consultants hereby gives notice to all potentially Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) that an application will be made to the Environmental Commissioner in terms of the Environmental Management Act (No 7 of 2007) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (GN 30 of 6 February 2012) for the proposed development of eighteen (18) base transceiver station (BTS) towers.

Powercom (PTY) LTD herein referred to as the proponent has identified different areas that needs improved communication alternatives in Namibia due to growth in population and economic activities. To achieve the objective of improved telecommunication connectivity, Powercom has been appointed by Telecom Namibia its sister company to establish telecommunication towers across the identified different locations. In this respect, Powercom has identified sites to construct and operate 22 telecommunication base transceiver station towers across the country.

Powercom (the proponent) has appointed D&P Engineers and Environmental Consultants to conduct the ESA processes for these proposed BTS tower developments. The EIA is being conducted to satisfy the Namibian environmental legislative requirements. The general public as well as any Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are hereby invited to register their concerns and notify the consultant of any potential environmental and social impacts that may be triggered by the project.

The proposed projects for which the Environmental Clearance Certificates will be applied for are as follows:

<p>1. Project Title: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study for the Proposed Construction of a Telecommunication Base Transceiver Station (BTS) Tower at Rundu, Kavango East.</p> <p>Site/Location: Kavango Centre of Excellence, Rundu, Namibia</p> <p>Coordinates: 17°56'25.60"S 19°45'42.90"E</p> <p>Venue: Onsite Time: 08:30 am Date: 26 May 2026</p>	<p>2. Project Title: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study for the Proposed Construction of a Telecommunication Base Transceiver Station (BTS) Tower at Onhuno in, Ohangwena Region.</p> <p>Site/Location: Onhuno Roadblock Area, Ohangwena, Namibia</p> <p>Coordinates: 17°31'36.1"S 15°54'12.5"E</p> <p>Venue: Onsite Time: 11:00 am Date: 27 May 2026</p>	<p>3. Project Title: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study for the Proposed Construction of a Telecommunication Base Transceiver Station (BTS) Tower at Oshakati in Oshana Region.</p> <p>Site/Location: NPTH Premises, Oshakati complex, Oshana, Namibia</p> <p>Coordinates: 17°47'13.78"S 15°42'0.08"E</p> <p>Venue: Onsite Time: 15:30 pm Date: 27 May 2026</p>	<p>4. Project Title: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study for the Proposed Construction of a Telecommunication Base Transceiver Station (BTS) Tower at Outapi (2x) in, Omusati Region.</p> <p>Site/Location: Nakayale Proper (VTC) & Outapi Ext 8, Outapi, Namibia</p> <p>Coordinates: 17°31'17.4"S 15°00'42.9"E & 17°29'43.6"S 14°58'54.7"E</p> <p>Venue: Onsite Time: 11:00 am Date: 01 June 2026</p>
<p>5. Project Title: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study for the Proposed Construction of a Telecommunication Base Transceiver Station (BTS) Tower at Ruacana, Omusati Region.</p> <p>Site/Location: Oshifo, Ruacana, Namibia</p> <p>Coordinates: 17°26'35.76"S 14°21'22.84"E</p> <p>Venue: Onsite Time: 15:30 pm Date: 01 June 2026</p>	<p>6. Project Title: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study for the Proposed Construction of a Telecommunication Base Transceiver Station (BTS) Tower at Opuwo, Kunene Region.</p> <p>Site/Location: Otuzemba, Ext 1, Erf 513, Opuwo, Namibia</p> <p>Coordinates: 18°02'49.50"S 13°50'57.70"E</p> <p>Venue: Onsite Time: 08:30 am Date: 02 June 2026</p>	<p>7. Project Title: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study for the Proposed Construction of a Telecommunication Base Transceiver Station (BTS) Tower at Lüderitz in, //Karas Region.</p> <p>Site/Location: Lüderitz Ext 4 (Diamondberg), Lüderitz, Namibia</p> <p>Coordinates: 26°39'6.70"S 15°09'12.77"E</p> <p>Venue: Onsite Time: 09:30 am Date: 26 May 2026</p>	<p>8. Project Title: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study for the Proposed Construction of a Telecommunication Base Transceiver Station (BTS) Tower at Lüderitz, in //Karas Region.</p> <p>Site/Location: Nautilus Ext. 5, Lüderitz, Namibia</p> <p>Coordinates: 26°37'52.27"S 15°10'48.19"E</p> <p>Venue: Onsite Time: 14:20 pm Date: 26 May 2026</p>
<p>9. Project Title: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study for the Proposed Construction of a Telecommunication Base Transceiver Station (BTS) Tower at Gobabis, Omaheke Region.</p> <p>Site/Location: Epako Ext 2, Gobabis, Namibia</p> <p>Coordinates: 22°25'57.33"S 18°59'13.56"E</p> <p>Venue: Onsite Time: 12:00 pm Date: 28 May 2026</p>	<p>10. Project Title: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study for the Proposed Construction of a Telecommunication Base Transceiver Station (BTS) Tower at Okahandja in, Otjozondjupa Region.</p> <p>Site/Location: Oshetu / Khaibasen, Okahandja, Namibia</p> <p>Coordinates: 21°59'53.97"S 16°53'35.74"E</p> <p>Venue: Onsite Time: 11:00 am Date: 29 May 2026</p>	<p>11. Project Title: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study for the Proposed Construction of a Telecommunication Base Transceiver Station (BTS) Tower in Okombahe, Erongo Region.</p> <p>Site/Location: Okombahe, Erongo, Namibia</p> <p>Coordinates: 21°21'22.75"S 15°22'29.93"E</p> <p>Venue: Onsite Time: 09:00 am Date: 01 June 2026</p>	<p>12. Project Title: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study for the Proposed Construction of a Telecommunication Base Transceiver Station (BTS) Tower at Walvis Bay in Erongo Region.</p> <p>Site/Location: Kuisebmond-Tutalen. Walvis Bay, Namibia</p> <p>Coordinates: 22°55'29.01"S 14°32'29.65"E</p> <p>Venue: Onsite Time: 10:00 am Date: 02 June 2026</p>
<p>13. Project Title: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study for the Proposed Construction of a Telecommunication Base Transceiver Station (BTS) Tower at Walvis Bay, Erongo Region.</p> <p>Site/Location: ERF 2998, Narraville, Walvis bay, Namibia</p> <p>Coordinates: 22°56'46.09"S 14°32'2.50"E</p> <p>Venue: Onsite Time: 10:00 am Date: 02 June 2026</p>	<p>14. Project Title: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study for the Proposed Construction of a Telecommunication Base Transceiver Station (BTS) Tower in Walvis Bay, Erongo Region.</p> <p>Site/Location: Dolphin Beach, Walvis Bay, Namibia</p> <p>Coordinates: 22°50'11.11"S 14°32'28.25"E</p> <p>Venue: Onsite Time: 10:00 am Date: 02 June 2026</p>	<p>15. Project Title: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study for the Proposed Construction of a Telecommunication Base Transceiver Station (BTS) Tower at Swakopmund in, Erongo Region.</p> <p>Site/Location: Maturura (DRC 2nd), Swakopmund, Namibia</p> <p>Coordinates: 22°39'1.83"S 14°33'43.62"E</p> <p>Venue: Onsite Time: 14:20 pm Date: 02 June 2026</p>	<p>16. Project Title: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study for the Proposed Construction of a Telecommunication Base Transceiver Station (BTS) Tower at Swakopmund in, Erongo Region.</p> <p>Site/Location: Tamariskia, Swakopmund, Namibia</p> <p>Coordinates: 22°39'26.73"S 14°32'25.55"E</p> <p>Venue: Onsite Time: 14:20 pm Date: 02 June 2026</p>
<p>17. Project Title: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study for the Proposed Construction of a Telecommunication Base Transceiver Station (BTS) Tower at Wlotzkasbaken Settlement in, Erongo Region.</p> <p>Site/Location: Wlotzkasbaken Settlement, Erongo, Namibia</p> <p>Coordinates: 22°22'22.7"S 14°26'28.6"E</p> <p>Venue: Onsite Time: 10:30 am Date: 03 June 2026</p>	<p>Interested & Affected Parties (I&AP) Registration and submission of comments: To comment or receive further information on the project, please register with the consultant (contact details below) as an I&AP before end of business on 17 June 2026. A Background Information Document (BID) has been compiled for the project and is available upon request to the consultant, contact below.</p> <p>All registered I&APs will be informed throughout the assessment process and provided with further opportunities to review and submit comments. Comments can also be submitted via the online form provided. Please scan the QR code or use the link below:</p> <p>https://forms.gle/SzEsvhyoNn8Dqseu9</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Scan me!</p> </div>		

Contact Details: D&P Engineers and Environmental Consultants
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Editorial

Direct flights, direct benefits: Edelweiss gives Namibia another reason to believe

The arrival of Edelweiss' inaugural non-stop flight from Zurich to Windhoek is far more than a routine addition to Namibia's aviation schedule. It is a vote of confidence in our country, our tourism sector, our economic prospects, and our growing place in the global marketplace.

For a nation that has spent decades seeking to overcome the constraints of geography and distance, every new international air connection matters. But some routes carry greater significance than others. The launch of direct flights between Switzerland and Namibia by Edelweiss, part of the Lufthansa Group, falls squarely into that category.

The significance lies not only in the numbers, although those are certainly impressive. More than 285 passengers arrived on the inaugural flight, while the addition of a third weekly frequency in July demonstrates that demand is already exceeding initial expectations. Combined with the existing services operated by Lufthansa Group airlines, Namibia will now enjoy 13 direct weekly connections to major European hubs and more than 152,000 annual seats.

These are not merely aviation statistics. They represent tourists, investors, businesspeople, conference delegates, entrepreneurs and future opportunities. At a time when nations across the world are competing aggressively for visitors and investment, connectivity has become one of the most important measures of economic competitiveness. Countries that are difficult to reach inevitably struggle to attract tourists and business travellers. Countries that are easily accessible enjoy a significant advantage.

Namibia is increasingly moving into the second category.

The establishment of direct flights from Zurich strengthens our position as a preferred long-haul destination and reduces travel barriers for one of Europe's wealthiest populations. Switzerland consistently ranks among the world's most prosperous countries, and Swiss travellers are known for seeking high-quality tourism experiences, nature-based adventures and sustainable travel destinations. Namibia offers all of these in abundance.

Our deserts, wildlife, coastlines, national parks and cultural heritage are world-class attractions. Yet no matter how attractive a destination may be, visitors must first be able to reach it conveniently. Direct flights remove a major obstacle and significantly improve Namibia's competitiveness against other African destinations.

The timing could hardly be better. Namibia's tourism industry continues its post-pandemic recovery and growth. Hotels, guesthouses, tour operators, restaurants, transport companies and countless small businesses stand to benefit from increased visitor arrivals. More tourists mean more bookings, more spending and ultimately more jobs.

This is particularly important in a country where unemployment remains one of our greatest socio-economic challenges.

Tourism is one of the few sectors capable of creating employment across multiple levels of the economy. It supports everyone from pilots and hotel managers to tour guides, drivers, artisans, farmers and informal traders. The benefits are spread across urban centres and rural communities alike.

A tourist visiting Etosha National Park, Sossusvlei, Swakopmund or the Skeleton Coast does not simply purchase an airline ticket. That visitor stays in accommodation establishments, buys food, uses transport services, purchases souvenirs and contributes directly to local economies.

The economic impact therefore extends far beyond the aviation sector.

Equally encouraging is what this development says about international perceptions of Namibia.

Airlines do not launch new routes based on

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The Edelweiss flight from Zurich to Windhoek is not merely a new route on an airline timetable. It is a symbol of growing confidence in Namibia's future. That is something worth celebrating.

sentiment. They invest based on careful market analysis, projected demand and long-term commercial viability. The decision by Edelweiss to deploy its new Airbus A350 on the Windhoek route signals confidence that Namibia is a destination worth investing in.

That confidence matters.

For years, Namibia has worked to establish itself as a stable democracy, a safe tourism destination and an attractive investment location. Every new airline route reinforces that image internationally. It sends a message that Namibia is open for business and increasingly connected to global markets. Credit must also be given to Air Connect Namibia, the Namibia Airports Company and the various public and private stakeholders who have worked diligently to attract additional international airlines.

Their efforts are beginning to bear fruit. The projected increase from 10 direct international destinations in 2023 to 17 by mid-2026 demonstrates a deliberate and successful strategy to expand Namibia's global reach. Such growth does not happen by accident. It requires coordination, marketing, infrastructure investment and sustained engagement with international airline partners.

The challenge now is ensuring that Namibia maximises the opportunities these flights create.

Additional visitors alone are not enough. We must convert increased arrivals into sustainable economic growth.

This means supporting local tourism operators, improving service standards, investing in destination marketing and encouraging visitors to explore beyond traditional tourism circuits.

It also means creating an environment where tourists become investors and where business travellers return as long-term economic partners.

Namibia cannot afford to view these flights simply as a tourism achievement. They are an economic development opportunity.

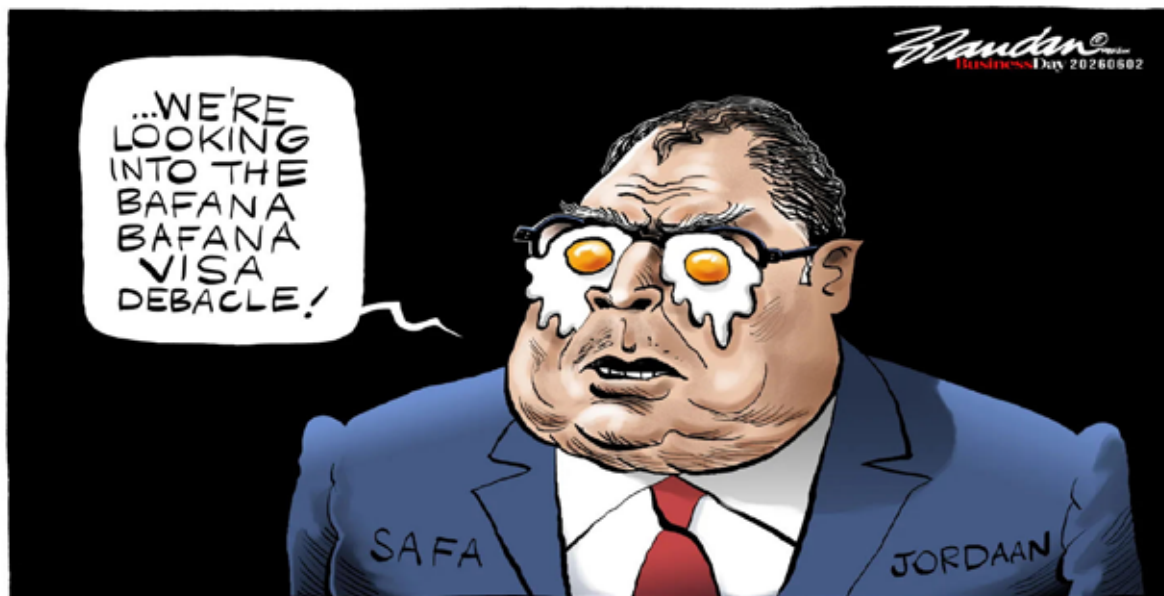
The comments by Affirmative Repositioning Member of Parliament Vaino Hangula are therefore particularly relevant. The real measure of success will not be the number of aircraft landing at Hosea Kutako International Airport. It will be the number of jobs created, businesses supported and communities uplifted as a result.

The arrival of Edelweiss is a reminder that Namibia's future remains full of promise. At times, public discourse can become dominated by challenges and setbacks. Yet developments such as this demonstrate that the country continues to move forward in meaningful ways. Every direct international connection shortens the distance between Namibia and the world.

Every new route strengthens confidence in our economy.

And every vote of confidence from global investors and airlines should remind us that Namibia possesses extraordinary potential.

The Edelweiss flight from Zurich to Windhoek is not merely a new route on an airline timetable. It is a symbol of growing confidence in Namibia's future. That is something worth celebrating.



“Genocide to renaissance”

Reflections on the Remembrance Programme held in Lüderitz by the Namibian government for 27 May 2026

Background

The Programme frames itself as an inclusive developmental dialogue. It states:

“As development partners we recognize that there has been misinformation circulating, leading some in the region, particularly our respected elders, to believe that these initiatives threaten their dignity and heritage.”

At first glance, this language appears conciliatory. Yet beneath it lies a deeper political tension between contemporary technocratic development narratives and the longstanding constitutional, historical, and sociocultural concerns consistently raised by the NTLA. What is striking about the Programme is not merely its emphasis on “development,” but the political architecture embedded within its framing. Concerns, resistance, and critiques raised by traditional leaders and affected communities are treated primarily as products of “misinformation,” rather than as legitimate structural and historical critiques. This framing is revealing. It shifts the discussion away from whether Namibia's current development model is just, participatory, and transformative, and instead reduces NTLA's concerns to a communication problem to be managed.

Unpacking The Framing

The Programme implicitly assumes that the legitimacy of the projects under discussion has already been settled, and that current investment trajectories are inherently progressive. Within this logic, the challenge is not structural injustice, but merely stakeholder perception, communication, and confidence-building. However, NTLA's struggle has never been about a lack of information. It has always been about structural exclusion; historical continuity; developmental legitimacy; ancestral



land relations; sovereignty of affected communities; and the human consequences of externally structured economic systems.

The core structural question

NTLA's fundamental concern is not whether development should occur. The real question is whether Namibia's current development model reproduces dependency, exclusion, and externally controlled accumulation while presenting itself as inclusive growth. Large-scale infrastructure and extractive projects are repeatedly justified through the language of national progress, investment, employment, and modernization. Yet structurally, many of these projects remain externally financed, externally designed, externally executed, and externally capitalized. The local population is too often reduced to spectators within their own economy — low-level labour participants or recipients of CSR promises rather than genuine economic actors with ownership and decision-making power. What Namibia has witnessed over the last thirty years cannot meaningfully be described as transformation. In many respects, it represents the continuation of a peripheral economic model inherited from colonial political economy.

Human development versus project development

A distinction must be made between development centred on infrastructure and capital accumulation; and development centred on human capability expansion. No economy can be considered transformative if technical skills remain externally imported; strategic sectors remain foreign-controlled; local industries are not meaningfully integrated into value chains; indigenous communities remain excluded from ownership structures; ancestral land and heritage are subordinated to investment priorities; and communities are consulted only after major political decisions have already been finalized.

The outsourcing and contracting problem

For decades, Namibia has justified externally contracted infrastructure projects on the basis that they would contribute to local employment, technology transfer, and skills development. Yet in practice, many foreign contractors continue importing substantial portions of their labour force, including for technical and semi-skilled work that qualified Namibians are fully capable of performing. The consequences are severe: weak domestic industrial capability; minimal technical transfer; dependency on foreign contractors; suppressed local enterprise participation; and public debt accumulation without corresponding local productive empowerment. After decades of externally executed capital projects, Namibia must honestly ask: Where is the measurable transformation in domestic engineering capacity, manufacturing capability, maritime expertise, or industrial ownership? The results remain painfully limited.

“Genocide to renaissance”

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

CSR as a substitute for justice

Corporate Social Responsibility often functions as a moral substitute for structural redistribution. Communities are offered scholarships, donations, and temporary community projects as evidence of inclusion, while remaining excluded from ownership, revenue streams, and governance structures. This creates a paternalistic relationship rather than justice. Communities are effectively expected to exchange sovereignty, heritage, and long-term developmental rights for temporary CSR gestures.

FPIC and democratic legitimacy

The language of “stakeholder engagement” frequently obscures the critical distinction between consultation and consent. Genuine Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) requires participation before commitments are finalized; full access to environmental and economic information; the right to reject or renegotiate harmful projects; and recognition that affected communities are rights-bearing actors rather than passive stakeholders to be persuaded. Without these principles, engagement risks becoming procedural theatre rather than democratic participation. As NTLA has also argued before the Parliamentary Committee on Constitutional Review and Reform, Namibia’s enacted laws and regulations do not consistently reflect constitutional principles in practice.

“Genocide to Renaissance”

This slogan itself demands serious scrutiny. The danger is that genocide remembrance risks becoming symbolically appropriated to legitimize contemporary economic arrangements that continue patterns of exclusion and dispossession. A genuine renaissance cannot merely mean participation in externally structured economic expansion. True renaissance must involve structural correction of historical inequalities; restoration of agency; equitable ownership; cultural protection; and meaningful participation in national wealth creation.

The issue is not opposition to development itself. The issue is opposition to a development paradigm that centralizes capital while marginalizing communities; externalizes expertise while domestic capability stagnates; and reduces affected communities to consultative subjects rather than co-authors of national transformation.

The central question therefore becomes: Is Namibia genuinely decolonizing its economy, or merely modernizing inherited systems of extraction and dependency under new actors?

Conflict is structural, not accidental

NTLA has previously argued that conflict is not accidental, but structurally produced. The present situation demonstrates precisely that reality. Conflict persists not because communities are “misinformed about development,” but because the underlying economic and governance structures continuously reproduce exclusion, asymmetry, and dispossession. Colonial dispossession created structural inequality through land alienation; labour extraction; and externally controlled accumulation. Postcolonial governance inherited many of these same economic structures, including enclave economies, centralized decision-making, and dependency on foreign capital. Modern development projects often reproduce these asymmetries through consultation without consent; CSR without redistribution; and investment without ownership transformation. Conflict therefore becomes systemic rather than incidental.

Conclusion

Perhaps NTLA’s most enduring contribution, despite sustained resistance, institutional discomfort, and recurring attempts at marginalization, has been its ability to move historically suppressed questions from the periphery into the center of national discourse. Issues once dismissed as isolated ethnic grievances — indigenous rights, historical land dispossession, cultural survival, enclave economies, benefit-sharing, restorative justice, and meaningful participation in development decisions — have now entered the public sphere as legitimate national concerns. In doing so, NTLA compelled both state institutions and wider society to confront realities that can no longer be dismissed as emotional memory or sectional agitation. The debate has evolved beyond symbolism into a deeper interrogation of economic inclusion; constitutional justice; historical continuity; and the moral legitimacy of postcolonial development itself.

Whether one agrees with NTLA’s posture or not, it is increasingly undeniable that the Association helped elevate indigenous and economic justice discourse to a point where silence is no longer politically sustainable. The language of rights, dignity, reciprocity, and historical accountability has now become part of Namibia’s wider democratic conversation.

We therefore applaud every intellectual, academic, activist, and concerned citizen from Hardap and the ||Karas regions who is willing to engage critically with these questions. It is time to move away from self-destructive silence and ensure that the voices of our communities are heard within the mainstream political and developmental future of our regions and our country.



Photo: J Studios/Getty Images

AI and journalism in southern Africa: editors are using it but balanced with human expertise and editorial judgement

MANDLA J. RADEBE, MBONGENI J MSIMANGA

Artificial intelligence (AI) is becoming part of everyday newsroom work across Africa. It has entered quietly through routine tasks such as transcription, headline writing, translation and content preparation.

In southern Africa, where AI adoption is steadily growing, its application in journalism is raising critical questions from policymakers and governments. While technology offers gains in speed and efficiency, its use remains contested due to ethical concerns and fears about job losses.

As communication and media scholars researching data and digital communication, in our study we examined its influence on production processes, ethical guardrails and job security. Interviews with senior editors revealed that, while AI improves efficiency and, in some cases, quality, it still requires human expertise and editorial judgement.

Senior editors described efficiency: faster turnaround, transcription, summarisation, headline generation and story drafting. Large volumes of information can be processed within tight newsroom deadlines. Most editors do not see AI as an immediate threat to jobs. Ethical concerns remain, prompting some newsrooms to adopt internal guidelines.

AI is already helping journalists sharpen headlines, summarise reports, generate illustrations, transcribe interviews and clean up copy under pressure. In some Zimbabwean newsrooms, AI-powered presenters are already reading weather bulletins and assist with news delivery. Yet caution prevails. Editors are experimenting with AI because newsroom pressures demand efficiency, but they remain determined not to surrender editorial judgement to machines.

This caution reflects broader structural pressures. Print circulation has declined, advertising revenue remains fragile and newsroom staffing has shrunk. In South Africa, newspaper circulation declined by 17.3% in 2024, with several major titles reducing operations or shifting to digital-first models. Journalists are expected to produce more content, across multiple platforms, at greater speed.

AI, however, introduces its own risks, including factual inaccuracies, hidden bias embedded in training data and weak contextual understanding. For example, AI systems may reproduce racial, gender, political, or cultural biases while struggling to interpret satire, local idioms and politically nuanced African contexts. As a result, editors emphasise that AI must remain under firm human

control.

AI is doing the routine work first

The first newsroom functions being reshaped by AI are repetitive tasks. Editors described using AI for headline optimisation, summarising, transcription and minor editing. These are labour-intensive processes but do not determine editorial direction.

In Zimbabwe, experimentation is more advanced in selected organisations. AI avatars, AI-powered digital news presenters capable of delivering human-like news bulletins through synthetic voices, facial expressions and automated script reading, are presenting weather updates and selected content.

South African newsrooms remain more restrained. AI is mainly used in editing, reporting and headline optimisation. Full article generation remains limited because editors insist on rigorous human verification.

For now, AI functions as an assistant rather than a substitute.

Why editors remain reluctant to trust it

The central issue is credibility. Generative AI produces fluent language, but fluency does not guarantee accuracy. It predicts plausible content rather than verifying truth. So it can generate convincing but incorrect information. One example is in the saga involving the development of the South African AI strategy by government. It was found to contain several fictitious academic references likely generated by AI hallucinations.

Editors in both countries highlighted this risk. Zimbabwean editors noted that AI often draws from online sources without distinguishing between verified reporting and misinformation. South African editors raised concerns about plagiarism, weak attribution and unverifiable sourcing.

This creates a paradox: AI speeds up writing but also creates more work, as journalists must verify machine-generated content before publication.

The African challenge is bigger than accuracy

Accuracy is only part of the problem. Many AI systems struggle with African linguistic and cultural contexts. Editors reported issues with pronunciation of indigenous names and poor handling of local nuance.

Most AI systems are developed in the global north and trained on western datasets, leaving African languages underrepresented. This calls for greater investment in African-centred AI research, local language datasets, and inclusive digital innovation policies. African newsrooms are adopting tools that do not fully recognise their communication environments.

Editors argued that locally grounded AI systems will be necessary to reflect African realities and avoid deepening technological dependence.

Will AI reduce journalism jobs?

While fears about job losses are widespread, editors offered a more measured view. Most do not expect journalists to disappear but anticipate pressure on technical roles such as sub-editing and layout.

Some acknowledged that media owners may eventually use AI to justify leaner staffing. But high costs remain a barrier. In Zimbabwe, in particular, expensive subscriptions and infrastructure challenges limit adoption.

In South Africa, editors similarly noted that current adoption levels are too limited to drive major labour restructuring. For now, AI is reshaping workflows rather than eliminating jobs. For example, one editor noted that AI tools have improved audience analytics and helped identify stories most likely to convert casual readers into paying subscribers. It also freed financial resources that can be redirected towards hiring freelance journalists.

Policy is falling behind technology

A key concern is that newsroom governance is not keeping pace with technological change. Zimbabwe’s Zimpapers group has introduced internal AI policies addressing disclosure, verification and training. Many South African newsrooms have yet to formalise such frameworks. The inputs from editors suggest that while existing press codes and ethical frameworks provide a basis for addressing AI-related challenges, they still need to be adapted to respond to the new ethical, operational and transparency risks posed by AI. This gap matters because journalism depends on public trust. Readers need transparency when AI is used, and journalists require clear guidelines on accountability. Without safeguards, efficiency gains risk undermining credibility.

Journalism remains a human responsibility

The central lesson is not that AI should be resisted, nor that journalism faces immediate automation. Rather, journalism remains fundamentally human because public trust depends on judgement, responsibility and context. Machines can generate text and process information quickly, but they cannot fully grasp political sensitivity, moral consequence or historical meaning. For this reason, editors in both countries maintain a clear position that AI may assist the newsroom, but journalism must remain under human editorial control. - **The Conversation**

Market Highlights

NAD per US Dollar

Weighted average of the banks' daily rates at approximately 10:30 am. Weights are based on the banks' foreign exchange transactions.

NAD per British Pound

Weighted average of the banks' daily rates at approximately 10:30 am. Weights are based on the banks' foreign exchange transactions.

NAD per Euro

Weighted average of the banks' daily rates at approximately 10:30 am. Weights are based on the banks' foreign exchange transactions.

EXCHANGE RATES

Major Pairs

N\$ / \$	16.2848	02 Jun 2026
N\$ / £	21.9233	02 Jun 2026
N\$ / €	18.9503	02 Jun 2026
N\$ / AOA	0.0175	02 Jun 2026

Repo
6.50
Prime
10.00

www.observer.com.na

PARAGON MEDIA

Banking sector remains an attractive investment destination

CHAMWE KAIRA

Staff Writer

Namibia's banking sector continues to attract investors, though differences in earnings quality among listed banks have become structural rather than cyclical, according to the latest Banking Report 2026 by Simonis Storm. The report identifies FirstRand Namibia as the preferred banking stock on the Namibian Stock Exchange (NSX), citing its ability to consistently generate returns on equity above the current cost of equity across a range of economic scenarios. According to the report, the investment case for FirstRand Namibia does not depend on an improvement in the economic cycle, making it the strongest banking franchise for investors seeking exposure to the sector.

Standard Bank Namibia received an accumulate rating based on valuation considerations.

However, Simonis Storm said investors should closely monitor the bank's deposit growth performance when its first-half 2026 results are released in August.

While the valuation gap has narrowed under the current 10.73% yield on Namibia's 10-year government bond, the analysts believe the bank still offers meaningful total return potential when future dividend income is taken into account.



A banking report has identified FirstRand Namibia as the preferred banking stock on the Namibian Stock Exchange (NSX). - Photo: Contributed

In contrast, the report recommends reducing exposure to Capricorn Group until several key indicators improve. These include stabilisation of Stage 2 expected credit losses, impairment growth slowing to below revenue growth, and operating cost growth moderating to mid-single-digit levels. Simonis Storm argued that the recent rise in Capricorn Group's share price should be viewed primarily as a technical and liquidity-driven development rather than one

supported by fundamentals. The report pointed to the disclosed sale of 830,000 shares by a connected party at N\$27.86 per share as providing additional market context, while underlying earnings data continued to warrant caution. Letshego Holdings Namibia was classified as a satellite investment position. The report noted that the company's deduction-at-source lending model provides some protection amid

pressure on household incomes but does not eliminate funding risks or potential regulatory challenges. The report found that the blended forward dividend yield of the banking counters carrying overweight and accumulate recommendations is approximately 10%, which remains below the current 10.73% yield available on Namibia's 10-year government bond. As a result, Simonis Storm said banking shares must be justified on

the basis of total return potential rather than income alone. The firm highlighted surplus capital, sustainable franchise strength, operational efficiency, and the ability to generate returns above the cost of equity as critical factors for investors. The report stressed that quality within the sector can be measured through funding costs, credit quality trends, cost management, and the ability to maintain profitability throughout interest rate cycles.

Conquering
FRONTIERS



paragon
investment holdings (pty) ltd

Swakop pushes for major housing, infrastructure expansion

CHAMWE KAIRA
Staff Writer

The Municipality of Swakopmund is advancing a series of housing, land servicing and infrastructure projects aimed at accommodating the town's rapid growth, while creating new investment opportunities and addressing housing needs in informal settlements. Swakopmund Municipality chief executive officer Alfeus Benjamin outlined progress on the town's long-term development agenda under the 20-Year Structure Plan (2020-2040), which was approved by the National Planning Board (NPB) and the Ministry of Urban and Rural Development (MURD) in October 2022. Portions of land were identified in October 2024. The parcels, ranging between 20 and 40 hectares, have been earmarked for low-income, middle-income and high-income residential developments, as well as business and industrial activities. The proposal has been submitted to the NPB

and MURD, with approval expected in 2026. Swakopmund is also progressing plans for the development of Hage Geingob Square, a commercial township approved by council in 2019.

The project received approval from the Regional and Planning Board in 2023 and is currently at the design and consulting stage. In addition, consultants have completed reports and development concepts for the Airport and Hage Geingob precinct development.

The municipality continues to invest heavily in servicing land for housing developments. Servicing of DRC Extensions 41 and 42 has commenced, while Extension 41 is nearing completion.

Occupants have already received occupation certificates, allowing them to take possession of their plots pending formal transfer once servicing is completed.

Council has also approved and allocated erven in Extensions 182 and 183 to housing groups, including Harambee, Build Together and the Shack Dwellers Federation.



Alfeus Benjamin

Resettlement will commence once basic services are in place.

Further expansion is planned east of Kramersdorf through the Dunes development, covering Extensions 32, 33 and 34.

Land servicing at Rossmund is expected to begin during the 2026/27 financial period, with the area earmarked for high-income residential development.

Significant progress has also been recorded in the upgrading of the Democratic Resettlement Community (DRC).

In Extension 31, servicing has been completed, and 112 beneficiaries from DRC Proper and DRC Seaside have received offers to purchase erven and build their own homes. Construction of 73 houses is nearing completion under the municipality's informal settlement upgrading programme.

Private sector developments are also contributing to housing delivery. Quintessential (Pty) Ltd has completed bulk infrastructure and Phase 1 land servicing in Matutura, where 214 houses have already been completed. Additional land servicing continues.

Meanwhile, the Eddy Angola Trust development in Tamariskia aims to provide 87 residential erven, although the project is currently on hold.

At Elize Investment's development, 111 apartments and 52 houses have been completed, while additional erven are being serviced and developed in subsequent

phases.

In Atlantis, the Ombundu Development in Extension 2 at Mile 4 is nearing completion of bulk services and Phase 1 land servicing, with housing construction expected to begin after Phase 2 is completed.

Swakopmund has further intensified efforts to formalise land ownership in the DRC. Council has donated 805 erven in DRC Extensions 27, 28 and 30 to residents who were previously relocated there. The erven are fully serviced and are being transferred to beneficiaries, subject to ministerial approval.

An additional 207 erven have been donated in Extension 37, while 204 residential erven in Extension 38 are also set to be transferred to long-standing beneficiaries.

Since 2021, the municipality has relocated 561 residents to serviced plots in Extensions 40, 41 and 42 as part of its decongestion programme.

Land servicing in these areas is continuing with support from central government funding.

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TOP Gainers NSX Local		
Share code	Close	1MoM%
Letshego Holdings (Namibia) Ltd	5.52	3.18%
SBN Holdings Ltd	13.21	0.99%
FirstRand Namibia Ltd	55.11	0.97%
Capricorn Group Limited (prev Capricorn Investment Group Ltd)	28.04	0.65%
Mobile Telecommunications Limited	9.31	0.32%
TOP Losers NSX Local		
Share code	Close	1MoM%
Paratus Namibia Holdings Ltd	12.3	-0.40%
Oryx Properties Limited	13.64	-0.07%
Nictus Holdings - Nam	3.4	0.00%
TOP 5 Gainers NSX Overall		
Share code	Close	1W%
Anglo-American plc	920.95	6.24%
Oceana Group Limited	60.29	1.16%
Investec Limited	138.69	0.59%
SBN Holdings Ltd	13.21	0.46%
Namibia Breweries	32.11	0.00%
TOP 5 Losers NSX Overall		
Share code	Close	1W%
Paladin Energy Limited	123.84	-4.82%
Santam Limited	363.81	-4.63%
Standard Bank Group	306.68	-4.54%
Sanlam Limited	82.2	-4.29%

Currencies				
	Close	1D%	%MoM	%YTD
USD/ZAR	16.22625	0.53%	-1.99%	-1.62%
EUR/ZAR	18.893034	0.39%	-2.57%	-2.48%
GBP/ZAR	21.860817	0.57%	-2.91%	-1.61%
USD/EUR	0.8588483	0.24%	0.77%	0.99%

Commodities				
	Close	1D%	%MoM	%YTD
Brent Crude Oil (ICE \$/bbl)	94.98	3.18%	-12.19%	56.09%
Gold NYMEX Near Term (\$/ozt)	4475.2	-1.87%	-3.34%	3.46%
Platinum NYMEX Near Term (\$/ozt)	1922.40	0.01%	-3.72%	-5.51%
Copper Cash Official LME (\$/mt)	13819.00	1.50%	7.17%	10.52%
Uranium Near Term (NYM \$/lbs)	86.25	1.59%	0.52%	5.70%
Money Market Rates				
	3 MONTH	6 MONTH	9 MONTH	12 MONTH
Average Bank NCDs	6.79	7.01	7.18	7.26
Treasury Bill Rates	7.05	7.28	7.31	7.37
JSE INDICES				
Share code	Close	1D%	%MoM	%YTD
JSE ALSI	114,006.15	1.76%	-2.7%	-3.28%
All Share Industrials	139,441.92	2.91%	-1.9%	-8.18%
Mid Cap	105,539.55	0.02%	-5.3%	-7.02%
Small Cap	107,461.58	0.35%	-0.5%	-0.80%
Industrial 25	130,187.36	3.11%	-2.1%	-8.86%
Financial 15	24,919.48	-0.24%	-1.3%	0.43%
Resource 10	123,237.98	2.68%	-5.5%	-2.93%
Top 40	106,257.27	2.00%	-2.9%	-3.52%
World Market				
Share Code	Close	1D%	%1M	%YTD
FTSE100	10,338.95	-0.68%	-0.24%	-3.28%
S&P500	7,613.83	0.26%	5.12%	-8.18%
DAX	25,124.17	-0.40%	2.93%	-7.02%
ASX	8,724.40	-0.03%	0.00%	-0.80%
NASDAQ	27,144.54	0.42%	7.85%	-8.86%
NSX Overall	2,355.51	1.74%	1.71%	10.38%
NSX Local	838.63	0.03%	0.76%	9.29%

Short-term borrowing surges as inflation erodes household spending power

CHAMWE KAIRA
Staff Writer

Namibia's inflation outlook has become increasingly uncertain as rising fuel costs and geopolitical tensions threaten to place renewed pressure on households and businesses, even as private sector credit growth showed signs of improvement in April.

According to FNB Namibia's latest Private Sector Credit Extension report, headline inflation accelerated to 3.1% year-on-year in April, up from 2.1% in March, largely driven by higher transport costs following fuel price increases.

FNB Namibia Graduate Analyst Ndatelela Amukuhu said the increase was largely anticipated and reflected supply-side pressures linked to ongoing tensions in the Middle East. The report warns that inflationary pressures are likely to persist into May following another round of fuel price hikes, adding further strain on consumers already grappling with elevated living costs.

While a projected pause in fuel price adjustments during June could provide some relief, the inflation outlook remains highly dependent on developments in the Middle East. Any escalation of the conflict could push transport costs even higher and trigger broader increases in food prices, intensifying pressure on household budgets and squeezing business profitability.

"Any further escalation is likely to further lift transport costs and spill over into food prices, intensifying household expenditure pressures while also compressing business margins," the report noted.

The inflation risks come at a time when households are increasingly



Headline inflation accelerated to 3.1% year-on-year in April, up from 2.1% in March. - Photo: Contributed

relying on short-term borrowing to meet day-to-day expenses. Household credit growth edged up to 4.2% in April from 4.1% in March, driven primarily by a sharp increase in overdraft lending.

Overdraft growth accelerated to 5.4% year-on-year in April from just 0.5% in March, suggesting that many households are turning to short-term credit facilities to cope with rising living costs rather than financing long-term purchases.

FNB warned that inflation, combined with subdued wage growth, could continue to erode purchasing power and limit consumer spending throughout the year.

"Elevated living costs, coupled with rising inflation, continue to pose a risk to further eroding purchasing power," the report said.

As a result, household credit growth is expected to remain subdued, averaging around 3% during 2026. The inflation outlook is also shaping expectations for monetary policy. The Bank of Namibia kept the repo rate unchanged at 6.50% in April, maintaining a cautious stance amid global uncertainty and rising imported inflation risks.

Following a recent interest rate increase by the South African Reserve Bank, the interest rate gap between Namibia and South Africa widened to

50 basis points, increasing pressure on the Bank of Namibia to preserve monetary stability and protect the currency peg.

FNB said the central bank is likely to maintain its prudent approach as geopolitical risks and global financial market volatility continue to present upside risks to inflation.

The extended pause in interest rates means borrowing costs are likely to remain elevated for longer, potentially limiting demand for credit despite recent improvements in lending activity.

Overall private sector credit growth rose to 4.8% year-on-year in April from 4.3% in March, marking the strongest

expansion since the beginning of the year.

The increase was largely driven by a rebound in overdraft lending by both households and corporates, particularly within the mining sector. However, FNB noted that the composition of credit growth remains a concern, as borrowing is increasingly concentrated in short-term facilities rather than longer-term investment and expansion.

The report concludes that while credit growth has strengthened, inflationary pressures, high borrowing costs and economic uncertainty are likely to keep both consumer and business activity constrained in the months ahead.

Mediclinic records strong results amid restructuring plans

CHAMWE KAIRA
Staff Writer

Mediclinic Holdings Limited reported solid revenue and earnings growth for the year ended 31 March 2026, even as the healthcare group navigates major restructuring plans.

Although Mediclinic is no longer required to publish standalone results following its acquisition by a consortium comprising Remgro Limited and MSC Mediterranean Shipping Company Holding SA, Remgro said the disclosure was made due to the group's significant contribution to its own financial position and net asset value.

Group adjusted revenue rose 11% to US\$842 million. The EBITDA margin improved to 15.7% from 15.3% in the prior year, and adjusted earnings increased 45% year-on-year.

In constant currency terms, revenue and EBITDA grew 5% and 8% respectively, reflecting broad-based growth across divisions.

Despite strong operational gains, earnings were affected by significant non-cash impairment charges.

These included a US\$689 million in write-downs on property, equipment,

vehicles and intangible assets in Switzerland.

Mediclinic said the impairments reflect increasingly difficult market conditions and are excluded from its adjusted earnings measure.

The results come as Remgro and Investment Holding Limited SARL, a subsidiary of MSC, advance a major restructuring of their stakes in Mediclinic.

Under an agreement signed on 30 March 2026, Remgro will acquire full ownership of Mediclinic Southern Africa, including its operations in Namibia, for US\$950 million.

The restructuring is expected to significantly reshape Mediclinic's geographic and operational footprint, separating its Southern African and Swiss businesses between its major shareholders.

Remgro said the underlying performance demonstrates continued resilience in Mediclinic's operating model, driven by volume growth and efficiency improvements, even as certain markets remain under pressure.

The group added that further details, including divisional breakdowns and reconciliations, are available through its investor relations platform.



Remgro will acquire full ownership of Mediclinic Southern Africa including those in Namibia for US\$950 million. - Photo: Contributed

Namibia helps lift Momentum Africa earnings by 60%

CHAMWE KAIRA
Staff Writer

Momentum Africa's operations in Namibia helped drive a strong earnings performance for financial services group Momentum Group during the nine months ended 31 March 2026, with the country contributing to growth in life insurance, new business volumes and contractual service margins across the group's African operations.

The group reported a 15% increase in normalised headline earnings (NHE) to N\$5.54 billion, while NHE per share rose 20% to 414 cents from 346 cents in the comparable period.

The performance was supported by contributions from all major business units, including Momentum Investments, Metropolitan Life, Guardrisk and Momentum Insure. Momentum Africa, which includes operations in Namibia, Botswana and Lesotho, recorded a 60% increase in NHE to N\$304 million.

Earnings were boosted by strong investment income, improved operating profits and positive changes in economic assumptions.

The company said its life insurance businesses benefited from higher expected profits in Namibia and Lesotho, favourable yield curve movements in Botswana and Namibia, and increased investment income from fixed deposits in Botswana.

These gains were partly offset by the depreciation of the Botswana pula against the South African rand. Momentum Africa's contractual service margin (CSM), a key measure of future profitability, increased 1% to



Momentum Africa's operations in Namibia helped drive a strong earnings performance for the Momentum Group. - Photo: Contributed

N\$1.74 billion.

The growth was driven by new business generated in Namibia, Botswana and Lesotho across both annuity and protection products. New business volumes also strengthened significantly.

The present value of new business premiums (PVNBP) rose 49% to N\$4.03 billion, supported by the acquisition of major group risk

schemes in Botswana and Lesotho and continued annuity growth in Botswana.

Guardrisk, another division within the group, reported a 16% increase in NHE to N\$693 million.

The insurer said its Namibian business, which recently transitioned from the Africa segment, made a positive contribution to revenue growth through a relatively low claims

ratio in its retail operations and solid investment fee performance within its cell captive business.

Across the wider group, new business activity remained robust, supported by healthy investment inflows, significant corporate scheme wins in Momentum Africa and continued growth on Momentum Investments' wealth platform.

Single-premium business increased by

15%, while recurring premiums rose by 7%.

Momentum Health also delivered strong growth, with NHE increasing 35% to N\$343 million.

Health insurance membership across the group's African operations expanded by 14%, supported by a large new client in Mozambique and additional members joining after a competitor exited the Lesotho market.

Inflation surge reshapes monetary outlook

Staff Writer

Namibia's private sector credit extension (PSCE) data for April points to a mid-expansion phase in the credit cycle, with broad-based improvements in lending activity but rising inflation now emerging as the dominant macroeconomic risk, according to Almandro Jansen of Simonis Storm.

At the same time, inflation has emerged as a key macroeconomic pressure point. Headline inflation jumped to 3.1% in April from 2.1% in March, marking the sharpest monthly acceleration in the post-pandemic period.

The increase was primarily driven by transport costs, which reversed from a 1.7% decline to a 5.0% increase, reflecting lagged pass-through effects from currency depreciation and higher global fuel prices.

As a result, Namibia's inflation gap with South Africa narrowed to 90 basis points.

The inflation spike has significant implications for real interest rates. With the Bank of Namibia maintaining the repo rate at 6.50%, the real repo rate has fallen from 4.4% to 3.4%, while the real lending rate has eased from 7.5% to 6.5%. While this supports near-term credit demand, it also erodes household purchasing power, creating mixed

effects for the broader economy. Monetary conditions are further shaped by liquidity dynamics. Net foreign assets (NFA) contracted at a slower pace, improving from -17.6% to -6.6%, supported by a rise in official reserves to N\$58.8 billion driven by SACU inflows.

Meanwhile, broad money supply (M2) expanded by 10.5%, underpinned by a sharp 63.6% increase in net claims on central government, signalling a fiscal-driven liquidity environment.

The inflation acceleration has reinforced expectations that the Bank of Namibia will maintain its current policy stance. The base case is for the repo rate to remain at 6.50% through 2026, although the risk bias is shifting toward tightening should inflation exceed 5.0%.

This outlook has been influenced by recent developments in South Africa, where the South African Reserve Bank raised its repo rate by 25 basis points to 7%, lifting the prime rate to 10.50% in its first hike since 2023.

The move followed an increase in South African inflation to 4.0% and signals growing concern over second-round price pressures.

Given Namibia's currency peg to the South African rand under the Common Monetary Area, domestic monetary policy remains closely aligned with South African interest rate decisions.



Namibia's inflation gap with South Africa narrowed to 90 basis points. - Photo: Contributed

The widening interest rate differential places pressure on capital flows and foreign reserves, reinforcing expectations that the Bank of Namibia will maintain parity-driven policy alignment. Looking ahead, analysts expect PSCE growth to strengthen toward

5.0%–5.5% in the coming months, supported by both corporate and household borrowing. However, the outlook depends on three key variables: the sustainability of corporate lending outside mining and construction, the trajectory of inflation, and the interaction between

fiscal policy, money supply growth and external balances.

A sustained rise in inflation above 4.0%, combined with continued rapid money supply growth, could alter the credit cycle trajectory and increase the likelihood of tighter monetary conditions later in the year.



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Diamond of the month: May 2026 celebrating namibian excellence

DTI proudly recognises **Kornelius T. Shemuafeni as the Diamond of the Month for May 2026, honouring a remarkable act of bravery that captured the hearts of Namibians and demonstrated the profound impact that one individual can have in a moment of crisis.**

In a world where stories of heroism often seem reserved for public figures and uniformed professionals, Shemuafeni's actions serve as a powerful reminder that courage can emerge from ordinary people when it is needed most. His recognition comes after a selfless act that helped save the lives of nine-month-old twin babies during a life-threatening situation, an event that quickly drew admiration from communities across the country.

Faced with an emergency that demanded immediate action, Shemuafeni did not hesitate. Rather than standing by and waiting for others to intervene, he responded with courage, compassion, and a deep sense of responsibility. His willingness to place the safety and well-being of others above his own comfort exemplifies the qualities that define true community leadership. While many people aspire to make a difference in society, moments of genuine heroism are often measured by actions rather than words. Shemuafeni's response to the emergency demonstrated calmness under pressure and a commitment to helping those in need. His actions not only protected vulnerable lives but also inspired countless Namibians who followed the story. In many respects, the significance of his actions extends beyond the immediate incident itself. At a time

when communities around the world are increasingly challenged by social division and indifference, stories such as this remind us of the enduring values of humanity, kindness, and solidarity. They reinforce the belief that strong communities are built by individuals who are willing to step forward when others need help.

The Diamond of the Month initiative was established to celebrate Namibians whose actions contribute positively to society and inspire others through service, leadership, and excellence. While previous recipients have included business leaders, educators, athletes, public servants, and innovators, Shemuafeni's recognition highlights another important form of leadership—the leadership shown through character. His actions demonstrate that heroism is not always found in boardrooms, sporting arenas, or positions of authority. Sometimes it is found in everyday citizens who choose compassion over convenience and action over hesitation. By acting decisively during a critical moment, Shemuafeni became a symbol of the values that hold communities together.

As Namibia continues to celebrate individuals who make meaningful contributions to the nation, Kornelius T. Shemuafeni stands as a shining example of courage in action. His story reminds us that every person has the capacity to make a difference and that extraordinary acts often begin with an ordinary decision to help.

By honouring Kornelius T. Shemuafeni as the Diamond of the Month for May 2026, DTI celebrates not only a heroic act but also the spirit of compassion, responsibility, and service that strengthens communities and inspires a nation.

Why Gen Z workers are talking more openly about salary

For generations, talking candidly about finances—and in particular salary—was often considered taboo.

But a new Bank of America survey suggests that amid rising inflation, economic uncertainty, a tough job market and a culture that promotes social sharing, Gen Z adults are far more transparent with friends about what they earn, what they can afford and the financial stresses they face.

According to the survey, 27% of Gen Z adults (aged 18 to 29) reported they talk specifically about their salary or income with friends, compared to 20% of millennials, 12% of Gen X, and just 3% of baby boomers. When looking at the data overall, 60% of the Gen Zers reported having some money conversations with friends, as did 62% of millennials, while only

46% of Gen Xers and 29% of baby boomers said they talked money with friends.

Holly O'Neill, president of consumer, retail and preferred at Bank of America, emphasized that Gen Z's openness reflects a cultural shift, as well as an economic reality. As wages struggle to keep pace with the cost of living, and as financial anxiety grows for young professionals who struggle to find work, Gen Z is increasingly treating money conversations as less of a private matter and more of a tool for surviving and navigating today's economic climate. O'Neill suggests these conversations, if they become more common in the workplace, could lead to fairer pay and equity.

Touch Base
News from the world of work

It's estimated that over one-third of all job postings are fake, leading to increased frustration by job seekers looking for employment in a tough labor market. To combat this rising issue, Forbes contributor Michelle Travis reports that state lawmakers in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, California and Kentucky are considering potential laws to put an end to these "ghost job" postings. Dozens of higher education groups are lobbying to change a proposed federal rule that would cut federal student aid for thousands of programs that don't lead to higher salaries for graduates, reports The Washington Post. If passed, federal loans would only be preserved for programs where college graduates earn more than the average person with a high school diploma. -Forbes Africa



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SA: In a world built for scrolling, can book fairs still survive?

The 14th annual Kingsmead Book Fair, in association with Standard Bank, took place this past weekend but I have not stopped thinking about one particular conversation that happened there.

Not inside one of the packed discussion rooms where writers and thinkers dissected politics, memory and literature. Not during one of the polished panel talks either.

It happened quietly on a bench, away from the crowds, between me, a friend and one of the school cleaners who had been watching the fair evolve for years.

The fair carried that familiar warmth. Tables stacked with books. Readers walking slowly between stalls. The smell of paper and coffee. Writers signing books while strangers debated ideas in corners.

There is something deeply beautiful about watching people gather around stories in a world that increasingly rewards speed over stillness.

Despite anxieties around changing reading habits, this year's turnout offered some hope.

"Looking at initial numbers we had a great turnout this year, a record number of visitors and an increased number of people in sessions, which is positive," says fair director Alex Bouche.

"Our children's programme was also very well attended and the authors loved interacting with the young audience."

But beneath that beauty sat a quiet anxiety. One that followed me throughout the day.

I had brought along a friend who consumes almost everything digitally. Newspapers on his iPad. Books on a screen. Podcasts while driving. Newsletters while working. Like many people now, his relationship with media exists through devices that glow and refresh endlessly. He admitted he could not remember the last time he had walked into an Exclusive Books. For him, the experience of the Kingsmead Book Fair felt almost nostalgic. Like returning to something that



Nostalgia: The fair itself carried that familiar warmth, such as readers walking slowly between stalls. -Photos: Contributed

once shaped him but had slowly disappeared from his daily life. "A hard copy feels like a serious commitment," he told me while flipping through a book at one of the stalls. "Something our generation does not like." That line stayed with me for the rest of the day. Maybe that is exactly where the problem begins. Reading asks for commitment. It asks you to sit still long enough for your imagination to work. It asks you

to meet a writer halfway. To build worlds in your own mind instead of having every image delivered to you instantly through a screen. Today, people would rather consume 30 seconds of content than spend hours with a book. Algorithms reward immediacy. Attention spans shrink daily. Everything now competes with scrolling. My friend looked around the fair again before saying something else that felt even heavier.

"I should bring my kids and friends to this fair. We cannot let something like this fade away." That sentence carried both hope and fear. While the Kingsmead Book Fair remains important, you can also feel the pressure modern culture places on spaces like this. The world is changing rapidly and traditional reading spaces are fighting to remain visible inside an ecosystem built for speed, reaction and distraction.

After a long morning of attending sessions and moving through crowds, we eventually found a quiet bench away from the noise. I can get overstimulated sometimes, so the silence felt necessary. We continued dissecting what we had seen and what reading means now across our different industries.

Then someone joined the conversation unexpectedly. One of the school cleaners, who had clearly been listening nearby, slowly entered the discussion.

"I have been here for a very long time," she told us. "I have seen how full this event used to be. People do not come as much anymore and it really does worry me."

There was something incredibly grounding about hearing that observation from her.

It was not coming from publishers worried about sales figures or intellectuals mourning literary culture.

It came from someone who has quietly watched people arrive and disappear over the years.

"So people would rather sit at home in front of their TVs than come and enjoy a good day of books and conversation," she continued. "I really worry sometimes."

Honestly, so do I. Not because reading is disappearing completely. People are technically reading all the time now. Captions. Tweets. Text messages. Subtitles. Emails. Posts. We are consuming language constantly. But deep reading feels endangered.

The kind of reading where you sit with discomfort. Where your imagination stretches.

Where silence becomes part of the experience. Where you allow a writer to slowly unfold an argument, a memory or a world without interruption from notifications. Spaces like the Kingsmead Book Fair remind us that reading is not just about information. It is about presence. About gathering. About conversations that continue long after the session ends.

Mail&Guardian

NOTICE FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND COMPILATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, OPERATION, MAINTENANCE AND DECOMMISSIONING OF THE OTJIWARONGO - OMARASSA SCHEME EXTENSION PROJECT, OTJOZONDJUPA REGION.

Notice is hereby given to all potential Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) that an application will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner in terms of the Environmental Management Act (No.7 of 2007) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (Government Notice 30 of 6 February 2012):

ACTIVITY: The construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of the Otjiwarongo - Omarassa Pipeline replacement project

THE PROPONENT: Namibia Water Corporation Ltd.

PROJECT LOCATION: Northeast of Otjiwarongo, Otjozondjupa Region.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

NamWater intends to extend the Otjiwarongo-Omarassa Water Supply Scheme to improve the long-term water supply security to Otjiwarongo and the surrounding areas. The extension will include the connection of five (5) new production boreholes to the Okaputa pipeline. The new boreholes have a combined abstraction rate of 1,500 m³/d (75m³/h).

REGISTRATION OF I&APs AND PUBLIC MEETING:

In line with Namibia's Environmental Management Act (No.7 of 2007) and EIA Regulations (GN 30 of 6 February 2012), all I&APs are hereby invited to register and submit their comments, concerns or questions in writing to the contact details below on or before **22 June 2026**.

A PUBLIC MEETING WILL BE HELD ON:

DATE: 13 June 2026

TIME: 14h00

VENUE: Paresis Hall Otjiwarongo

CONTACT DETAILS:

D&P Engineers and Environmental Consultants (Namibia)
Tel: +264 61 302 672
Cell: +264 811405033
E-mail: info@dps.com.na

PUBLIC NOTICE: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) STUDY FOR THE PROPOSED UPGRADING TO LOW-VOLUME SEAL STANDARD (LVS) OF DR3645: OMUNTELE-ONANKE (±25.25KM) AND ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES IN THE OSHIKOTO REGION

The public is notified that an application for Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner as required under the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and its 2012 EIA Regulations. The proposed project is a listed activity in the EIA Regulations that cannot be undertaken without an ECC, which is issued upon approval of an EIA Study (EIA Scoping Report and Environmental Management Plan (EMP)).

Project Proponent: Roads Authority (RA) Namibia

Appointed Environmental Consultant: Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC (*Serja HGE Consultants*)

Project Description: The project activities entail the upgrading of the existing (±25.25km) gravel road DR3645: Omuntele-Onanke to low-volume seal (LVS) standards (tarred road). The road starts in Omuntele and ends in Onanke in the Omuntele Constituency, Oshikoto Region. The road was constructed around 2006/2007 using labour-based methods and is now planned and designed by Burmeister & Partners (Pty) Ltd Consulting Engineers for upgrading from gravel to a tarred road. Moreover, the project will also require materials from borrow pits and water supply for construction in proximity to the proposed road route.

The public is therefore invited, in terms of Regulations 21 to 24 of the EIA Regulations, to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and submit comments, concerns (**in writing**), or receive further information on the EIA Study. The deadline for registering and submitting comments, issues, or concerns is **Friday, 03 July 2026**.

Community Consultations: Meetings will be held along the road route, in Omuntele, Onanke, and areas between Omuntele and Onanke, between the **9th and 12th of June 2026**. The consultation meeting details will be communicated via email (to registered stakeholders/I&APs), the Omuntele Constituency Office, and village headmen in due course.

Contact Persons: Ms. Fredrika Shagama and Mr. Stefanus Johannes (Environmental Assessment Practitioners)

Mobile No: +264 81 749 9223 (Fredrika) / +264 81 400 0570 (Stefanus)

Email: eias_public@serjaconsultants.com (direct emails or scanned/photos of legible handwritten letters)



PUBLIC NOTICE

Envirodu Consulting & Training Solutions (ECUTS) cc hereby gives notice that **PowerCom (Pty) Ltd** intends to apply to the Environmental Commissioner for an **Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC)** in terms of the Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) and its Regulations (2012) for the following proposed activity:

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The proposed construction, installation, and operation of telecommunications infrastructure at the following sites:

Site Name	Region	Size
Batubaja	Zambezi	10 m x 8 m
Tjinga Valley (Rundu Ext 31)	Kavango East	10 m x 8 m
Sikanduko	Kavango East	10 m x 8 m
Henties Bay Ext 3	Erongo	10 m x 8 m
Henties Bay OMDEL Ext 3	Erongo	10 m x 8 m

INVITATION TO REGISTER AND COMMENT:

In accordance with the Public Participation Process, all Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs) are hereby invited to register and submit their comments, concerns, or objections regarding the proposed project in writing.

A **Background Information Document (BID)** is available upon request for those who register.

DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS: 5 June 2026.

To register, please contact:

Contact Person: Ms. Naemi Nelumbu

Email: nelumbu7@gmail.com



ENVIRODU CONSULTING & TRAINING SOLUTIONS CC
"Providing environmental-based solutions"

PUBLIC NOTICE: A CALL FOR PUBLIC, INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES PARTICIPATION

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (ESIA) STUDY FOR THE PROPOSED DETAILED DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF OXIDATION PONDS FOR ARANOS TOWN – HARDAP REGION, NAMIBIA

EnviroPlan Consulting cc, would like to inform all **Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs)** that an application for Environmental Clearance certificate will be made to the Environmental Commissioner in terms of the Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007), Regulation 22 as follows;

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Purpose: To establish a sustainable wastewater treatment facility to improve sanitation, reduce pollution, and support urban growth.

Proponent: Aranos Town Council

Project Title: Construction of Oxidation Ponds for Wastewater Treatment and support structures.

Location: Aranos Town, Hardap Region, Namibia; approximately 0.7 km east of the Nossob River

Coordinates: S 24°08'43.6" E 019° 06'10.2"

PURPOSE OF THE CONSULTATIONS

As part of the ESIA process, public consultations are being held to share project information, identify potential environmental and social impacts, and obtain inputs from stakeholders and I&APs before finalisation of the Environmental scoping assessment. This will provide the public an opportunity to engage directly with the project designing team.

MEETING DETAILS

Location: Aranos – in the Location – big tree opposite Betel hostel

Date & time: Friday 15th of May 2026 at 10:00 Hrs

Deadline for submission of Comments: 20 May 2026

REGISTRATION & DOCUMENTS

To register your attendance or request Background Information Document, please submit your details to: **The Environmental Consultant -EnviroPlan Consulting cc**
Phone:+264814 087 482 **Email:** info@enviroplanconsulting.com



PUBLIC NOTICE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT & PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROCESS

Notice is hereby given that an Environmental Scoping Assessment (ESA) and a Public Consultation Process (PCP) for an **existing** borrow pit are being conducted to realign gravel extraction from the existing borrow pit with the provisions of the Environmental Management Act.

On completion of the ESA and PCP, a formal application for an **Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC)** will be made to the Office of Environmental Commissioner (OEC) in the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) for consideration to approve the required ECC.

Listed Activity	Mining and Quarrying Activities Activity No. 3.2: 'Other forms of mining or extraction of any natural resources whether regulated by law or not.'
Location	The existing borrow pit is on Portion 111 (a Portion of Portion 39) of the Consolidated Farm Tsumore No. 761 situated within the jurisdiction of the Tsumeb Municipality, Tsumeb, Oshikoto Region.
Promoter	Rainy Days Investments (Pty) Ltd
Closing Date	Stakeholders and interested and Affected Parties (IAPs) are hereby invited to register for the EIA and to submit their comments and/or concerns. The period for public consultation is between 8 May 2026 to 30 May 2026. A Background Information Document (BID) is available upon inquiry

EIA Consultant: **Ekwao Consulting**
Fax: 088 645 026
Cell: 081 418 3125
Email: ekwao@iway.na

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PUBLIC NOTICE: A CALL FOR PUBLIC, INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES PARTICIPATION

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (ESIA) STUDY FOR THE PROPOSED INDIGENOUS TIMBER HARVESTING ON FARM NUMBER 1465 KAMPEGERE, MASHARE-KAVANGO EAST REGION, NAMIBIA.

On behalf of the project proponent, we would like to inform all **Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs)** that an application for Environmental Clearance certificate will be made to the Environmental Commissioner in terms of the Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007), Regulation 22 as follows;

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Purpose: The proponent intends to harvest **six hundred (600) *Petrocarpus Angolensis* (Kiaate)** and **eight hundred (800) *Guibourtia Colensperma* (Rosewood)** on Farm number **1465, Kampegere in Mashare constituency.** The farm is a small-scale commercial farming unit with a total size of 2 564 Hectares. The intended use of harvested timber are wood carving, timber and other uses locally. The harvesting will be done using manual felling, chainsaw operations, and transportation via trucks to Rundu and other parts of the country within Namibia.

Proponent: Faustina N Caley

Location: Farm No 1465 Kampegere, Mashare-Kavango East region

Coordinates: 18 56' 00 S 20 06' 00" E

PURPOSE OF THE CONSULTATIONS

As part of the ESIA process, public consultations are being held to share project information, identify potential environmental and social impacts, and obtain inputs from stakeholders and I&APs before finalisation of the Environmental scoping assessment. This will provide the public an opportunity to engage directly with the project designing team.

REGISTRATION & DOCUMENTS

To register and submit your inputs, please request Background Information Document and submit your details to: **The Environmental Consultant on or before the 19th of May 2026**
Phone: +264 814 087 482
Email: tnyungu@gmail.com

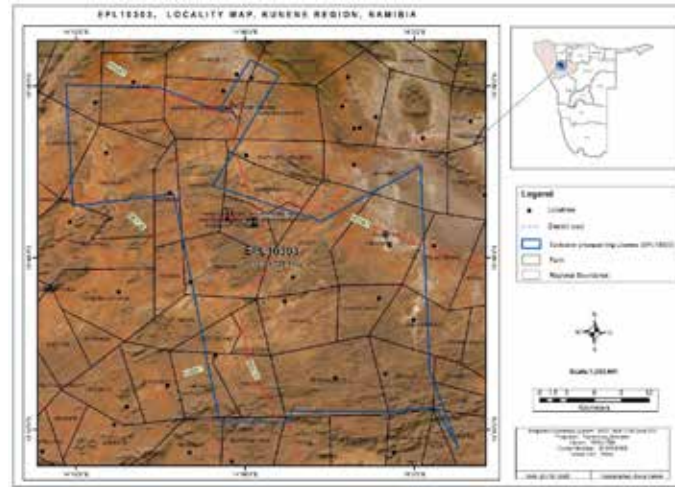
NOTICE FOR THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING

Notice is hereby placed to inform all potentially Interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) that an application for Environmental Clearance Certificate will be made to the Ministry of Environment Forestry and Tourism, in line with the provisions of Environmental Management Act 7 of 2007 and its Regulations of 2012.

Proponent: Carrilo Investment (Pty) Ltd

Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for the establishment of exploration activities of base and rare metals, dimension stone, industrial minerals, precious metals and semi-precious stones on Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 10303.

Project Location: Kamanjab, Kunene Region.



All Interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) are invited to register, request background information document and submit inputs on or before 19 June 2026. A public consultation is scheduled to take place on the 06th June 2026 at Kamanjab, Kunene Region @ 10h00.

For any inquiries please contact;

Consultant: Omapipi Tageya Archaeological and Heritage Consultants cc

Phone: +264 81 6680633

Email: otahconsultants@gmail.com



NOTICE FOR THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING

Notice is hereby placed to inform all potentially Interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) that an application for Environmental Clearance Certificate will be made to the Ministry of Environment Forestry and Tourism, in line with the provisions of Environmental Management Act 7 of 2007 and its Regulations of 2012.

Proponent: Carrilo Investment (Pty) Ltd

Project Description:

- (a) The project involves conducting an EIA for the establishment of exploration activities of base and rare metals, dimension stone, industrial minerals and precious metals on Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 10304.
- (b) The project involves conducting an EIA for the establishment of exploration activities of base and rare metals, dimension stone, industrial minerals, precious metals and semi-precious stones on Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 10305

Project Location:

- (a) The EPL 10304 is located at Omukurukaze village approximately 50 Km north-west of Okanguati, within the Epupa Constituency, Kunene Region.
- (b) The EPL 10305 is located approximately 40 Km north of Okanguati, within the Epupa Constituency, Kunene Region.

All Interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) are invited to register, request background information document and submit inputs on or before 19 June 2026. A public consultation is scheduled to take place on the 23th May 2026 at Okanguati, Epupa Constituency, Kunene Region @ 10h00.

For any inquiries please contact;

Consultant: Omapipi Tageya Archaeological and Heritage Consultants cc

Phone: +264 81 6680633

Email: otahconsultants@gmail.com



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SCAN TO VIEW OUR MENU

Carlo Ancelotti was entering unknown territory.

Despite having previously worked with 43 Brazilian players throughout his coaching career, the Italian manager had been in the South American country just once before - back in the early 2000s on a scouting mission as Juventus boss.

So when, after much back and forth, he reached an agreement in May 2025 to lead Brazil as their first ever foreign coach at a World Cup, he knew he had to hit the ground running. And so he did.

At one of his initial meetings in Rio de Janeiro, Ancelotti noticed plenty of the local staff at the CBF (Brazilian Football Confederation) trying to speak Spanish and even Italian to him. "No, no," he reacted with a smile on his face.

"I'm the one who has to make the effort to speak Portuguese here." The 66-year-old was aware that if he were to win over a fanbase that takes a lot of pride in the Selecao and has always considered itself to be self-sufficient in football, he needed to do that.

Such was his focus that he hired a Portuguese teacher and committed to four lessons a week.

"I was surprised by his commitment," Roberto Piantino, who has been working with him on his Portuguese, told BBC Sport.

"I remember once we finished a lesson on a Friday and, as usual, I asked him when he wanted to do the next one. He said: 'Tomorrow.' But that was a Saturday. I said: 'Of course, no problem.' That meant 9am in Vancouver [where Ancelotti lives with his wife].

"It happened more than once. That showed me how serious he really was about learning."

Sunday's 6-2 drubbing of Panama in their penultimate match before the World Cup kicks off was encouraging. Bournemouth's Rayan scored his first goal for his country, Brentford's Igor Thiago was on target, while Vinicius Jr, Casemiro and Lucas Paqueta and Danilo also hit the net.

Ancelotti will need every tool available to him though - Portuguese included - for the size of the challenge ahead this summer: preventing Brazil from setting an unwanted record.

The five-time champions last won the World Cup in 2002 and have never gone six editions without lifting the trophy.

There's a strong case, however, that the former Real Madrid and Chelsea coach is the right man for the job.

"One of the things Brazil needed the most was a manager bigger than the players," former international Walter Casagrande, now a respected football pundit, argued.

Ancelotti ticks that box: a record five Champions League titles and trophies in all five of Europe's major leagues carry real weight, even in a dressing room featuring Neymar, Vinicius Jr, Raphinha and co.

Injured Neymar could miss Brazil's World Cup opener

The 'world champion' at adapting In appointing Ancelotti, Brazil confronted one of the biggest taboos in their football history: the national team being led by a foreign coach. Even with the Italian's CV, there was initial resistance.

"We are the only country to have won the World Cup five times. It's not that a foreigner should never coach the



Carlo Ancelotti -Photo: Contributed

national team, but I would have gone for a Brazilian coach," said Cafu, a two-time World Cup winner in 1994 and 2002.

At an event for Brazilian coaches in November, the tension around the subject became impossible to ignore.

As Ancelotti went on stage to be honoured, he found himself listening to speeches from local colleagues criticising the presence of foreign managers in Brazil. "I have always said I don't like foreign coaches in my country. We, as coaches, are to blame for this invasion," said Emerson Leao, a 1970 World Cup winner. Such was the awkwardness that Ancelotti's son and assistant coach, Davide, left the event shortly afterwards.

But that proved to be a largely isolated episode in Ancelotti's first year in charge.

Despite inconsistent results - six wins, two draws and three defeats in his initial 11 matches - recent research from Quaest, a leading polling institute, found most Brazilians trust him.

According to the survey, 41% approve of his work, compared with 29% who disapprove.

With that support, the CBF moved quickly, renewing his deal until 2030 before he had even led Brazil at the World Cup.

However, that was also a reflection of arguably Ancelotti's biggest strength: his ability to get people behind him. Sources have told BBC Sport that although he received the first draft of the contract in early April, he held off signing it for about a month. The reason was that he wanted three other CBF staff members - whom he credited with helping him to adapt

in Brazil - to have their contracts extended until 2030, too.

"He is a chameleon," said 1994 World Cup winner Leonardo, who worked with Ancelotti at AC Milan and Paris St-Germain both as a player and as an executive.

"Wherever he goes, he adapts to the people, the team, the players. He is a world champion at that. If I ever bought a team, my coach would be Carlo. There is no other choice. "He enters into symbiosis with the environment, and that has already happened here [in Brazil]. People like him."

Ancelotti extends Brazil contract until 2030

"We have two of the best five players in the world"

Despite a chaotic four-year cycle - among other things, Brazil had their confederation president removed from office by court order, went through four different coaches and ended the qualifiers with their worst-ever campaign - Ancelotti still believes he can deliver their sixth World Cup title.

"We have two of the five best players in the world," he repeated in the corridors of the CBF headquarters. He's referring to Real Madrid's Vinicius Jr and Barcelona's Raphinha.

But then comes the hardest part: making them perform for the Selecao the same way they do for their clubs. In Ancelotti's bold 4-2-4 tactical system, that hasn't been the case yet.

Sunday's win was just the third time the Italian has had the two on the pitch together, the previous times being in a 1-0 win over Paraguay

in June 2025 and in a 2-1 defeat by France in March this year. On the latter occasion, however, Raphinha came off at half-time. With Rodrygo and Estevao Willian out injured, making that partnership work will be even more important.

If that is still a work in progress, the dressing room is not. Ancelotti has already got the players listening.

"In the game against Paraguay [in June 2025], we needed to win to qualify for the World Cup. At half-time, a lot of people were talking, talking, talking. Then he said: 'Guys, wait. I'm going to smoke a cigarette, I'll be back in five minutes and then you can talk,'" Manchester United midfielder Casemiro said in an interview with former England defender Rio Ferdinand.

"After that, he came back, spoke, and everyone was like: 'OK. This guy is different.'"

It was a classic Ancelotti moment: calm, simple and human. Even his Portuguese lessons seem to reflect that.

"I had prepared a lesson on imperative verbs," Piantino, who also works as a teacher with other players and coaches from Brazil and abroad, recalled.

"The material was ready, with a presentation explaining how imperatives work in Portuguese. But as soon as I started, he pointed it out: 'No, no, no, I don't communicate like that. I don't use imperatives. It's not my style to give orders like that.'" Ancelotti was on Italy's bench as assistant coach when Brazil won the 1994 World Cup in the United States. Now, he returns with them, hoping to take the Selecao back to the top in his own way. - **BBC**

GOSSIP

Aston Villa do not plan to sell Morgan Rogers amid interest in the attacking midfielder, Barcelona remain keen on signing Marcus Rashford from Manchester United and Real Madrid hold talks with Inter Milan right-back Denzel Dumfries.

Aston Villa are aware of interest in attacking midfielder Morgan Rogers from a number of clubs, including Arsenal, but have no intention of selling the 23-year-old England international. (Telegraph - subscription required), external

Eintracht Frankfurt's Germany full-back Nathaniel Brown, 22, is the subject of interest from Bayern Munich and Arsenal. (The Athletic - subscription required), external

Manchester City and Chelsea are interested in Juventus' wing-back Andrea Cambiaso, 26, with Barcelona also monitoring the Italy international's situation. (Gazzetta dello Sport - in Italian), external

Liverpool and Paris St-Germain might both want RB Leipzig winger Yan Diomande but the German club are calm about the situation as they believe the 19-year-old will not only stay with them for another year but also sign a new improved contract. (Sky Sports Germany), external

Barcelona boss Hansi Flick, sporting director Deco and president Joan Laporta remain keen to sign Manchester United forward Marcus Rashford on a permanent basis amid interest from Bayern Munich, Newcastle, Tottenham and Aston Villa in the 28-year-old England international. (The I), external

Juventus are looking at a move for 27-year-old Bournemouth and Netherlands forward Justin Kluivert as an alternative to Real Madrid's 26-year-old Morocco international Brahim Diaz. (Gazzetta dello Sport - in Italian), external

Manchester United have scouted Juventus and France defender Pierre Kalulu and the Turin club might be forced to sell the 25-year-old to balance the books after failing to qualify for the Champions League. (Corriere dello Sport - in Italian), external

Portugal midfielder Mateus Fernandes, 21, has been cleared to leave West Ham after contact from Manchester United and Arsenal, while Liverpool and Paris St-Germain are also monitoring developments. (Teamtalk), external

Aston Villa, Atletico Madrid and Borussia Dortmund are interested in Club Brugge's German striker Nicolò Tresoldi, 21, after a prolific season in Belgium. (The Athletic - subscription required), external

Real Madrid have held talks with Inter Milan defender Denzel Dumfries, who has a £21.6m release clause, as they view the 30-year-old Dutch international as their top target to strengthen at right-back. (Athletic) - **BBC**