

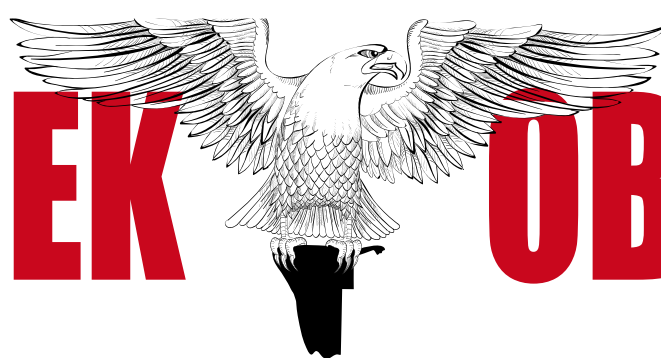


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PARAGON MEDIA

TUESDAY 9 JUNE 2026

ACC summons tender official in 'health rot' probe

RENTHIA KAIMBI
Staff Writer

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has issued a formal summons to a member of the ministry of health and social services' Bid Evaluation Committee, compelling the official to appear for questioning over allegations of widespread procurement manipulation, systemic supply chain fraud, and the theft of pharmaceutical medicines from state warehouses. The summons, seen by the *Windhoek Observer*, demands that the committee member appear before ACC investigator Frans Ndjai on 18 August 2026 at the commission's headquarters in Windhoek, where they will be questioned under oath and required to produce a range of sensitive internal documents. The identity of the committee member is withheld to protect the integrity of the ongoing investigation. When contacted for comment, ACC's spokesperson Marina Matundu declined to confirm or deny the existence of the summons,



At this stage, we are not in a position to confirm or comment on any alleged summonses or individuals who may have been approached as part of ongoing processes- **Marina Matundu**

stating that the commission is not in a position to discuss individual cases. "At this stage, we are not in a position to confirm or comment on any alleged summonses or individuals who may have been approached as part of ongoing processes," Matundu said. She cautioned that public discussion of such matters would be premature, adding, "It would be premature to make such matters public, as doing so could potentially compromise or interfere with ongoing investigations and related procedures." Matundu assured that any official

communication regarding the probe would be released "through the appropriate channels at the appropriate time." The investigation targets activities between 2023 and 2025, focusing on the Central Medical Stores, the Procurement Management Unit, and the Namibia Medicines Regulatory Council. According to the summons, the official must identify all Bid Evaluation Committee members and attendees who participated in pharmaceutical and clinical procurement evaluations



TO PAGE 2 Paulus Noa - Photo: Contributed

Culture eats training

An organisation can invest in the best training available — bring in expert facilitators, develop polished content, and schedule employees into every programme on the calendar — and still see very little change. Why? Because training does not operate in isolation. It enters a living environment called culture, and culture always has the final word. This is what people mean when they say culture eats training. Training introduces ideas, skills, and new ways of working. Technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), the Internet of Things (IoT),

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Kalangula slams speed humps on B1 as 'reactive and short-sighted'

ALEXER NAMUNDJEMBO
Staff Writer

Independent Patriots for Change (IPC) Member of Parliament Nelson Kalangula has criticised the installation of speed humps along the B1 Western Bypass, calling the move reactive and short-sighted after vehicle collisions were reported on the new

structures this past weekend. Responding to questions from the *Windhoek Observer* on Monday, Kalangula said the chaos on the roads in recent days is a clear indicator that the current administration's approach to road safety is flawed. He acknowledged that the high number of pedestrian fatalities between the Independence Avenue interchange near Katutura Hospital

and Lafrenz, as well as on the A1 near Prosperita, is "completely unacceptable." However, he argued that the Ministry of Works and Transport and the Roads Authority (RA) are treating a national highway like a suburban residential street. "The B1 Western Bypass and the A1 are critical economic arteries. They are designed with high-speed,

efficient transit of goods and people in mind. Dumping massive, poorly planned speed humps on a 120 km/h international transit corridor does not create driver alertness; it creates massive traffic bottlenecks, severe rear-end collision risks, and inflicts structural damage on the vehicles of our hard-working citizens,"

TO PAGE 2

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Kalangula slams speed humps on B1 as 'reactive and short-sighted'

FROM PAGE 1

Kalangula said.

He claimed it appears that works and transport minister Veikko Nekundi enforced the idea against engineers' advice regarding the implications of speed humps on the highway.

"The minister and RA need to revisit this idea. The petition by the public is entirely correct, as we need long-term, structural solutions," he added. Kalangula said the only permanent solution is to physically separate high-speed vehicular traffic from pedestrians through bridges at critical crossing hotspots, especially near Katutura Hospital and industrial hubs such as Lafrenz and Prosperita. "Roads built before independence were designed with that in mind. Why are we thinking backwards? You find one pedestrian bridge in Academia and one near Eros Girls School."

If temporary speed reduction is required while bridges are built, he suggested high-visibility warning signage and rumble strips instead of what he called "concrete mountain ranges that break suspensions and cause abrupt braking."

"It is very important to listen to the engineers and the public, and stop engineering hazards under the guise of safety. Infrastructure development that protects the pedestrian without punishing the motorist is what we should focus on," Kalangula said. The Roads Authority (RA) has announced the installation of speed humps at selected locations along the B1 Western Bypass in Windhoek, a move that will temporarily disrupt traffic between the Independence Avenue interchange (Katutura Hospital area) and the Lafrenz interchange.

The RA explained that construction began on Friday, 5 June 2026. The authority added that one lane will be closed at a time during the construction phase, with traffic diverted to the remaining open lane. "The intervention, which was initiated by Honourable Veikko



The installation of Speed humps on the Western Bypass's B1 Has led to traffic congestion. -Photo: Contributed



Nelson Kalangula - Photo: Contributed

Nekundi, Minister of Works and Transport, follows an increase in pedestrian-related crashes along these sections, some of which have resulted in fatalities. The speed humps form part of an immediate road safety measure to reduce vehicle speeds, improve driver alertness and enhance pedestrian safety in these high-risk areas," the authority explained.

The RA urged road users to exercise caution when approaching the affected areas and to comply with all traffic signs and instructions from officials.

"Appropriate traffic management measures, including warning signage and traffic accommodation arrangements, will remain in place throughout the installation period to safeguard both road users and on-site personnel. The RA urges motorists to approach the affected areas with caution, obey all traffic signs and instructions from traffic officials,

and reduce speed accordingly," the authority added.

However, a petition was launched on Monday calling on the RA and Nekundi to revisit the decision.

The petition, started by Charlo Rittmann, states that the public freeway is not constructed for pedestrian crossings but is meant to facilitate the fast and efficient movement of vehicles.

The petition states that the introduction of speed humps, while intended to enhance safety, has inadvertently caused increased congestion, longer travel times and unnecessary frustration for daily commuters.

"It is crucial to address the safety of pedestrians, but installing pedestrian bridges is a more effective and efficient solution than speed humps. Pedestrian bridges offer a safe, dedicated crossing for foot traffic, allowing pedestrians to cross without hindering vehicle flow," it reads.

"This approach ensures the freeway remains an effective route for vehicular travel while respecting the safety and convenience of pedestrians," the petition reads. It further recommends that pedestrian bridges are a long-term investment in infrastructure, providing a sustainable solution that reduces accident risks while maintaining the freeway's original purpose.

"By allocating resources to build these bridges, we can reduce congestion, lower fuel emissions from idling cars, and enhance the overall flow of traffic. I urge our local government and transportation authorities to reconsider their strategy and prioritise the construction of pedestrian bridges. This change will not only improve the commuter experience but will also ensure the safety of all road users," it states.



Marina Matundu - Photo: Contributed

ACC summons tender official in 'health rot' probe

FROM PAGE 1

during that period, including those involved in emergency procurement processes. Investigators are demanding the handover of all evaluation reports, scoring sheets, and adjudication records relating to the purchase of medicines and clinical supplies. Of particular interest to the commission are the minutes of meetings, attendance registers, and decision records from committee deliberations concerning procurement activities. The ACC also seeks tender specifications, amendments, and any communication records that might suggest tailoring of requirements or preferential engagement with specific suppliers. Sources familiar with the investigation indicate that prosecutors are examining whether certain tender documents were written to favour pre-selected companies, effectively locking out

competitors before bids were even advertised.

The summons further requests documentation relating to alleged procurement manipulation, including evidence of price inflation, post-approval quantity adjustments, and the abuse of emergency procurement approvals. Emergency procurement has emerged as a major concern because it allows the ministry to bypass standard competitive bidding procedures under urgent circumstances, creating opportunities for inflated pricing and rapid payments without proper oversight.

Investigators are also seeking any records or knowledge relating to the alleged theft, diversion, or resale of pharmaceutical or clinical medicines from the Central Medical Stores or elsewhere within the national medical supply chain. Whistleblower accounts previously submitted to the commission have

described a pattern in which stock allegedly disappears from state warehouses, creating artificial shortages that then trigger costly emergency purchases.

In some instances, it is alleged that the same stolen goods are resold back to the government by unscrupulous suppliers, allowing corrupt actors to bill the state twice for the same products. The Bid Evaluation Committee member is additionally required to depose to a sworn or affirmed statement regarding the furnishing of all requested information and documentation.

The ACC has broad powers under the Anti-Corruption Act of 2003 to compel testimony and the production of documents, and failure to comply with the summons is a criminal offence. The commission has been under increasing public pressure to address long-standing allegations of corruption within the health

ministry, which manages hundreds of millions of Namibian dollars in public funds annually for medicines and clinical supplies. While the ministry of health and social services has previously stated its commitment to transparency, repeated audit findings have highlighted weaknesses in inventory management, procurement oversight, and contract monitoring.

Sources have noted that the commission may subsequently issue further summonses to other committee members or senior ministry officials as the investigation broadens. The *Windhoek Observer* understands that the ACC is treating this matter as a high-priority investigation, given the direct threat that stolen or diverted medicines pose to patient care and public health outcomes across the country.

Sesfontein councillor pushes for tarred roads

ALLEXER NAMUNDJEMBO
Staff Writer

Sesfontein Constituency Councillor Bernadus //Hoeb is calling for urgent action on road infrastructure, saying the tarred road from Sesfontein to Opuwo is long overdue and should be completed during his term.

Speaking to the *Windhoek Observer* last Tuesday, //Hoeb said the regional council has a procedure to address roads, but he is yet to see a master plan for Kunene.

“The specific road from Sesfontein to Opuwo was supposed to be tarred long back in 2016 to 2018. During the budget under the tenure of the late President Hage Geingob, there was a budget cut, and the funds for the roads were cut,” he said.

He added that former Roads Authority chief executive officer Conrad Lutombi informed councillors last year that the design for the Sesfontein-Opuwo road is complete and only waiting for approval.

“That road is long overdue. It will connect Otuvani and the main capital of the constituency,” //Hoeb said. “I want the road to be tarred during this term.”

The councillor listed his priorities saying: “There are two roads actually. My priorities are the one from Sesfontein to Buros and the stretch from Omuramba. It is the shortest to Kamanjab. Those are some of the roads I am advocating for.”

//Hoeb’s comments come as residents raise concerns about the state of gravel roads in the region.

Sesfontein resident Moses Kaunda described the 270-kilometre gravel road from Khorixas to Sesfontein as a “destructive road” that damages vehicles.

“Imagine driving a small car on that road daily? It is a disaster. The government should consider tarring the gravel. Even if someone is injured and the ambulance is transporting



The Sesfontein - Khorixas gravel road. -Photo: Contributed

them, they will die just due to the uncomfortable condition of the road,” Kaunda said.

He questioned whether the government has plans to address gravel roads, which he called “disastrous to vehicles.”

Opuwo Urban constituency councillor, Ueutjerevi Ngunaihe last year said that Opuwo and surrounding areas have been

neglected. “The only road that was developed from gravel to bitumen is the road between Kamanjab and Ruacana. The rest are gravel roads and are worn out,” Ngunaihe said. He added that rivers cut off access during rainy seasons, sometimes preventing bodies from reaching the Opuwo mortuary for days. Roads Authority manager of

corporate communications, Hileni Fillemon, said the RA spent over N\$2.2 million on road maintenance in Kunene this financial year, focusing on blading and reshaping gravel roads. She said future plans include roads from the MR124 intersection to Otuvani, DR3707 from Orupembe to Kaoko-Otavi, and DR3705 from Onjete to the end of the gravel section.

On the Oute River, Fillemon said the RA installed culverts at a cost of about N\$3.6 million, but they were washed away. A larger bridge is planned, but “securing adequate funding for the project remains a challenge.” She said the Oute Bridge remains a priority. Efforts to get comment from Kunene Regional Governor Vipua Muharukua were unsuccessful.



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Namibian cancer cases set to surge 84% by 2045

PATIENCE MAKWELE
Staff Writer

Health Minister Dr Esperance Luvindao has warned that Namibia could face an 84% increase in cancer cases by 2045, as health experts raised concerns over delayed diagnoses, limited rural screening services and growing barriers to treatment.

Speaking at the opening of the World Health Organization (WHO), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) imPACT Review Mission in Windhoek on Monday, Luvindao described cancer as one of Namibia's most pressing public health threats.

According to figures presented by the minister, Namibia recorded approximately 2,200 new cancer cases in 2018. Four years later, that figure had risen to 3,453 cases, while cancer-related deaths reached 1,940.

She stressed that the situation is expected to worsen. Projections indicate that Namibia could record more than 6,300 new cancer cases annually by 2045 if current trends continue.

"This is not a prophecy we must accept. This is a warning we must answer," Luvindao said.

The minister said breast cancer remains the most common cancer among women, with an estimated 553 new cases recorded annually, while cervical cancer accounts for around 350 new cases each year despite being largely preventable through screening and vaccination. While the government has invested in chemotherapy, radiotherapy and oncology services, health experts say one of the country's biggest challenges remains the late diagnosis of cancer, particularly in rural communities.

Health expert Nalucha Buchane said too many patients continue to be treated repeatedly for symptoms rather than being referred for further investigations. "One of the biggest challenges we face is delayed diagnosis. Patients

Key figures:

2,200 cancer cases in 2018
3,453 cases in 2022
1,940 cancer deaths in 2022
553 breast cancer cases annually
350 cervical cancer cases annually
· Projected 6,300 cases by 2045
· 84% increase forecast

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This is not a prophecy we must accept. This is a warning we must answer.



Dr Esperance Luvindao - Photo: Contributed

often present at clinics multiple times with persistent symptoms and are treated symptomatically without sufficient follow-up investigations," Buchane said. "We need to move away from a

culture where patients are repeatedly given painkillers, antibiotics or other medication without healthcare workers asking why the symptoms persist. Early testing and referrals must become standard practice." She said rural clinics and district hospitals should be strengthened to improve early detection. "Cancer should not only be diagnosed once a patient reaches Windhoek Central Hospital or another referral facility. Frontline healthcare workers in villages, settlements and small towns must be empowered to identify warning signs much earlier," she said. Cancer Association of Namibia (CAN) principal officer Jo-Anne Crossman, previously revealed that the financial burden of cancer extends far beyond hospital bills. "Many patients face substantial indirect costs, including transport, accommodation and loss of income, particularly those travelling from rural areas to access specialised treatment in Windhoek. These hidden costs often place enormous pressure on families already dealing with a life-threatening diagnosis," Crossman said. She warned that financial constraints continue to contribute to treatment delays and interruptions. "Some patients postpone or even abandon treatment because they cannot afford the associated costs. Delayed treatment often results in disease progression, reduced

treatment effectiveness and poorer outcomes for patients," she said. A resident in the Zambezi region who lost her mother to cervical cancer said the warnings about delayed diagnosis are painfully familiar. The woman, who requested anonymity, said her mother repeatedly sought treatment at a local clinic after experiencing recurring symptoms. According to her, healthcare workers initially treated the symptoms with pain medication and injections. "She would get treatment and appear better for a few days, then the symptoms would return and we would be back at the hospital again, and nurses would give her pills for relieving the pain," she said. The distressed woman explained that the family eventually pushed for more comprehensive testing after a friend suggested there could be an underlying condition. By then, the diagnosis revealed advanced cervical cancer. "I had to take my late mother to the clinic myself, and the nurse I found on duty was very rude simply because I suggested that she should do other tests. She was furious and almost did not want to help us because I was apparently trying to teach her how to do her job," the woman shared. "When the test results finally came out, she already had stage three cancer that was progressing towards

stage four. She only survived for six months after that." The woman said the diagnosis plunged the family into emotional and financial turmoil. "We were completely unprepared. The costs of chemotherapy, travelling between hospitals and accommodation became overwhelming. We had to sell livestock just to try and keep up with expenses." She believes earlier intervention could have improved her mother's chances of survival. "Up to today, I still ask myself whether things would have been different if the cancer had been detected earlier. Many families are suffering because patients are only referred when the disease has already advanced." Clinical psychologist Anastasia France said cancer places enormous emotional strain on patients and their families long before treatment even begins. "A cancer diagnosis often comes with fear, uncertainty, anxiety and depression. Patients are not only worried about survival; they are also worried about how they will pay for treatment, transport and accommodation, especially when treatment requires travel to major centres," France said.

She said psychological support should be integrated into cancer care. "The emotional burden of cancer is often underestimated. Many patients feel isolated and overwhelmed. Mental health support should form part of the treatment journey from diagnosis onward." Crossman also warned that some patients delay or abandon treatment because they cannot afford the indirect costs associated with care. Luvindao acknowledged that Namibia still faces significant challenges, including workforce shortages, infrastructure limitations and unequal access to healthcare between urban and rural areas. She said the international review mission would help identify gaps in the country's cancer response and guide future investments. "The recommendations that emerge from this mission will become the blueprint for our National Cancer Control Plan and guide our investment decisions, workforce training and policy direction for the next decade," she said. The review mission brings together experts from the WHO, IAEA and IARC to assess Namibia's cancer prevention, screening, diagnosis and treatment systems. In order to fight the surging outbreak of cancer cases, experts say Namibia's ability to improve early detection and expand access to quality healthcare may determine whether the country can prevent thousands of avoidable deaths in the decades ahead. Crossman said improving cancer outcomes will require stronger investment in early detection programmes, patient support services and access to treatment. "The earlier cancer is detected, the better the chances of successful treatment and survival. Early diagnosis not only saves lives but also reduces the financial burden on patients, families and the healthcare system," she said.

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'AI should serve workers, not replace them' - Immanuel

RENTHIA KAIMBI
Staff Writer

Minister of justice and labour relations, Fillemon Wise Immanuel, has said that artificial intelligence can be harnessed for decent work without job losses, provided governments choose retraining over retrenchment.

Speaking at the 114th International Labour Conference in Geneva, Switzerland on Monday, Immanuel offered an example of how the Social Security Commission had recently introduced digital tools to improve service delivery and accountability. Although the transition directly affected 65 positions, no worker lost their job.

"Instead, retraining and upskilling were prioritised, demonstrating our commitment to a human-centred transition," Immanuel said.

Addressing delegates during debates on a report harnessing AI for decent work and the situation of workers in the occupied Arab territories, the minister rejected the notion that technology alone determines outcomes.

"Technology does not determine outcomes; but policies and institutions do," he said, endorsing the central message of the report.

"The future of work must be deliberately governed, not left to chance."

Without adequate safeguards, he warned, AI risks shifting burdens onto vulnerable workers and deepening existing inequalities. The Social Security Commission overhaul aligns with Namibia's National Digitalisation and Skills Agenda and the Global Digital Compact.

The commission invested in retraining programmes that allowed affected workers to adapt to new roles within the digitalised system, turning a potential wave of job losses into a managed transition.

Immanuel acknowledged that many developing economies continue to face structural constraints, limited digital

infrastructure and unequal access to technology.

He called for stronger international cooperation, capacity building, technology transfer and financing to ensure that AI becomes a driver of inclusive development rather than a new frontier of exclusion.

He also urged the International Labour Organisation (ILO) to expand technical assistance to help member states modernise labour market institutions and adapt social protection and skills systems to the realities of AI-mediated work.

Immanuel encouraged member states to establish tripartite AI advisory mechanisms and to integrate algorithmic management and data governance into collective bargaining processes.

He further urged the ILO regional office for Africa to work closely with the African Union in operationalising the Continental Artificial Intelligence Strategy in support of Agenda 2063.

Turning to the second part of the director general's report, Immanuel addressed what he called a devastating reality in Gaza.

"Decent work cannot flourish under occupation, conflict, or war," he said, reaffirming Namibia's support for the full implementation of the two-state solution in accordance with international law.

He also expressed solidarity with the Sahrawi people, whose right to self-determination remains unrealised, as well as with the people of Cuba, stating that unilateral coercive measures undermine development, run counter to international law, and are inconsistent with the ILO's mandate to advance social justice. he minister returned to the principle guiding Namibia's domestic approach.

"We uphold the ILO's founding principle that 'labour is not a commodity' and safeguard the rights and dignity of all workers," he said.

"In doing so, we can ensure that AI becomes a force for shared prosperity, inclusive labour markets and social justice."



Fillemon Wise Immanuel

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Editorial

Speed humps on highways: When quick fixes create bigger problems

The recent installation of speed humps along sections of Windhoek's B1 Western Bypass and A1 highway has once again exposed an unfortunate tendency within government decision-making: responding to tragedies with knee-jerk solutions rather than evidence-based interventions.

No one disputes that pedestrian fatalities on these roads are a serious concern. Every life lost is one too many, and authorities have a duty to act decisively to prevent further deaths. However, acting decisively is not the same as acting wisely.

The speed humps introduced by the Ministry of Works and Transport and implemented by the Roads Authority appear to be a reaction to recent pedestrian deaths on what is, by design, a high-speed road network. While the intention to save lives is commendable, the method chosen raises serious questions about planning, consultation and the understanding of modern road safety principles.

Almost immediately after the humps became operational, motorists reported severe traffic congestion and several rear-end collisions. One such incident reportedly involved a black SUV crashing into the back of a sedan shortly after the measures came into effect. Instead of reducing danger, the intervention appears to have introduced a new set of hazards.

Highways are engineered for uninterrupted traffic flow. Abrupt speed humps on roads carrying thousands of vehicles daily are unusual because they create sudden braking points, increase the likelihood of collisions and reduce overall traffic efficiency. Windhoek already struggles with increasing traffic volumes and congestion. The city can ill afford additional bottlenecks on some of its most important arterial roads. Even if the speed humps were intended only as a temporary measure, they are still not an effective solution.

Temporary solutions should minimise disruption while longer-term interventions are developed. In this case, the temporary measure itself has become part of the problem. What makes the situation particularly frustrating is that there are numerous scientifically proven alternatives available.

Across the world, road safety experts have demonstrated that pedestrian fatalities on high-speed roads can be significantly reduced through infrastructure and technology. Pedestrian bridges and underpasses, improved fencing to prevent jaywalking, intelligent speed cameras, rumble strips, better street lighting, enhanced signage, controlled crossing points and targeted enforcement campaigns have all proven successful in different environments.

Data-driven traffic studies could have identified the precise causes of the accidents and guided authorities toward solutions tailored to local conditions. Instead, Namibia appears to have opted for the most visible solution rather than the most effective one.

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Saving pedestrians should not come at the cost of creating new dangers for motorists. Nor should traffic management measures paralyse the city's road network.

Unfortunately, this is not the first time unusual road safety measures have raised eyebrows.

Namibians are still recovering from the spectacle of reflector jackets for livestock, introduced to reduce nighttime collisions involving animals. While the intention was understandable, the proposal became the subject of widespread ridicule. The problem was not the desire to save lives, but rather the perception that simplistic and somewhat comical remedies were being offered for complex challenges.

Road safety is a science. It is not guesswork.

The Safe System approach adopted by many countries recognises that human beings will inevitably make mistakes. Roads must therefore be designed in ways that minimise the consequences of those mistakes. This requires engineers, urban planners, behavioural scientists and road safety specialists working together to develop integrated solutions.

That is why the current controversy presents an opportunity for Works and Transport Minister Veikko Nekundi to demonstrate leadership. Rather than doubling down on a policy that is attracting widespread criticism, the minister should invite road traffic safety experts, transport engineers and independent specialists to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the affected sections.

Such consultations should not be viewed as a sign of weakness. On the contrary, they would demonstrate a willingness to place evidence above politics and expertise above expediency. Public confidence in government interventions depends not only on good intentions but also on competence. Citizens want to know that policies are based on research, tested methodologies and international best practice.

The ultimate objective remains unquestionable: preventing unnecessary deaths on Namibia's roads. But achieving that objective requires solutions that are both effective and sustainable.

Saving pedestrians should not come at the cost of creating new dangers for motorists. Nor should traffic management measures paralyse the city's road network.

Namibia deserves better than reactionary policymaking. The country deserves solutions grounded in science, informed by experts and designed for long-term success.

Because when it comes to road safety, good intentions alone are not enough.



Private schools, tutorial centres and the protection of teachers: Is there a regulatory gap in Namibia?

SAKARIA JOHANNES

Pprivate schools and tutorial centres have become an important part of Namibia's educational landscape. They complement public education, create employment opportunities, and provide learners with alternative pathways to academic success. Many of these institutions operate professionally and contribute positively to the country's development. However, an important question remains largely unexplored: Are teachers and other employees in the private education sector adequately protected?

The enactment of the Education Act, 2020 (Act No. 3 of 2020) was an important milestone in the regulation of education in Namibia. The Act provides a framework for the registration, governance, and operation of private schools. It seeks to ensure quality education and accountability. Yet, when one examines the realities faced by some employees in private schools and tutorial centres, there appears to be a gap between educational regulation and labour protection.

Across the country, concerns are occasionally raised about excessive workloads, long working hours, unpaid overtime, limited leave benefits, and the pressure experienced by some educators. While not every private institution is guilty of these practices, the allegations are serious enough to warrant public discussion. The challenge is that many teachers are reluctant to speak openly about their experiences. In a country with high unemployment levels, many fear that raising concerns could result in the loss of their jobs.

This situation creates a power imbalance between employers and employees. Teachers may feel compelled to accept conditions they would otherwise challenge because the alternative may be unemployment. As a result, some labour concerns remain hidden from public view.

The problem is further complicated by the fact that many private school teachers do not belong to labour



unions or professional organisations. Unlike some workers who benefit from collective representation, private-sector educators often face workplace disputes alone. When disagreements arise over contracts, salaries, overtime, dismissals, or working conditions, many teachers lack the resources to seek legal assistance.

Legal representation is expensive. For an educator earning a modest income, hiring a lawyer may simply be impossible. Consequently, many workers find themselves in a difficult position: they may have rights under Namibian labour law, but they lack the means to enforce those rights. In practice, access to justice becomes limited by financial realities.

The issue therefore raises broader questions about governance and oversight. Should educational authorities focus solely on academic standards, or should they also pay attention to the welfare of the educators responsible for delivering those standards? Can educational quality truly be separated from the working conditions of teachers? A teacher who is overworked, underpaid, or fearful of victimisation is unlikely to perform at his or her best. The welfare of educators directly affects the quality of education received by learners. Protecting teachers is therefore not merely a labour issue; it is an educational issue. To address these challenges, Namibia may need a more integrated approach. The Ministry of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sport, Arts and Culture and the Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment

Creation could strengthen cooperation in monitoring private educational institutions. Labour inspections could become more frequent, and awareness programmes could educate teachers about their rights and responsibilities. There may also be merit in exploring specialised support mechanisms for employees in the private education sector. Such mechanisms could include confidential reporting systems, labour rights education, affordable legal assistance, and stronger protections for whistle-blowers who report labour abuses.

Perhaps the time has come for policymakers to consider an even bigger question: Should Namibia establish an Independent Private Education Ombudsman or Teachers' Protection Office to safeguard the rights and welfare of educators in private schools and tutorial centres? Such an institution could investigate complaints, provide mediation services, offer legal guidance, and ensure that teachers have a safe avenue through which to raise concerns without fear of victimisation.

It would not exist to punish private schools but rather to promote fairness, accountability, and professional standards throughout the sector. Private education remains an important partner in national development. The objective should not be to undermine private schools or tutorial centres. Instead, the goal should be to ensure that educational excellence is matched by labour justice. A nation that values education must also value educators.

As Namibia continues to reform and modernise its education system, one policy question deserves serious national debate: Who protects the teachers who dedicate their lives to educating the nation when they have nowhere else to turn?

The answer to that question may determine not only the future of private education but also the dignity of those entrusted with shaping Namibia's future generations.

Sakaria Johannes is a Namibian Educator, Political science graduate and an historian. He can be reached at sackyutsi@gmail.com

Senegal's Sonko and Faye Divide: A reflection on the dual system of legitimacy - one institutional and the other ideological

PAUL T. SHIPALE

(with inputs by Folito Nghtongovali Diawara Gaspar)

When political victory gives way to the burden of governance

Political movements are often forged in struggle. They emerge from dissatisfaction, mobilize citizens around a shared vision, and promise to transform society. During the journey to power, unity appears natural because attention is directed toward a common objective. Yet history repeatedly demonstrates that the greatest test of a movement is not winning power, it is governing after victory.

The emerging political divide between Senegalese President Bassirou Diomaye Faye and his former Prime Minister Ousmane Sonko offers a powerful illustration of this reality. What initially appeared to be rumors of disagreement within Senegal's ruling movement has evolved into a public political rupture. Sonko's announcement that the party he cofounded called PASTEF would not formally participate in the newly constituted government signaled more than an internal dispute. It revealed the collapse of the dual leadership arrangement that characterized Senegal's political transition following the historic 2024 elections.

For Senegal, this moment represents a critical test of democratic resilience. For Africa, it offers an important lesson about the relationship between political ideals and statecraft.

For Namibia, which is entering a transformative era of its own, it provides valuable insights into the challenges that accompany political transition, resource wealth, and national development.

The end of a political fusion

The electoral victory of 2024 in Senegal was built upon one of the most powerful political partnerships in contemporary Africa.

The slogan "Diomaye is Sonko, Sonko is Diomaye" projected an image of complete unity. To supporters, the two men represented different expressions of the same political project, a movement committed to reform, sovereignty, accountability, and economic transformation.

Today, that political fusion appears to have come to an end.

President Faye increasingly governs as an autonomous head of state, while Sonko positions himself as the defender of the movement's original vision and ideological direction.

At the heart of this dispute lies a fundamental question that has surfaced throughout history whenever movements enter government. The question is; who truly embodies the mandate that brought a political movement to power?

President Faye possesses constitutional legitimacy. He is the elected head of state, entrusted with executive authority, responsible for foreign policy, national security, and the management of state institutions.

Sonko, however, possesses another form of legitimacy. As the founder and principal architect of PASTEF, he retains substantial influence over the movement's grassroots supporters, parliamentary representatives, and political identity.

One commands the state. The other commands much of the political energy that made the state's capture possible. This creates a rare but significant political dynamic that struggles between constitutional authority and movement

legitimacy. History suggests that such arrangements are difficult to sustain indefinitely.

The paradox of political transformation

The disagreement between Sonko and Faye is not merely about personalities or political ambitions. It reflects a deeper contradiction inherent in many reform movements. Movements often gain support because they promise rupture. They challenge established systems, reject compromise, and offer a vision of profound change. Governance demands something different.

Governments must manage public finances, reassure investors, negotiate international agreements, maintain institutional stability, and balance competing interests. The language of protest frequently collides with the realities of administration.

This paradox has appeared repeatedly throughout African history. Liberation movements that once spoke the language of resistance later discovered that governing requires a different set of skills. Revolutionary rhetoric often encounters the constraints of economic realities, institutional responsibilities, and international obligations.

Activism rewards conviction. Governance rewards balance. Opposition thrives on certainty.

Leadership often requires compromise. The Senegalese experience reminds us that political victory does not resolve these tensions. It simply shifts them from the streets into the institutions of the state.

Sovereignty and the reality of interdependence

Economic policy appears to be one of the major fault lines behind the growing divide.

Many of Sonko's supporters were attracted by promises of greater national control over economic policy, strategic resources, and development priorities. The movement's rise was partly driven by criticism of arrangements perceived as limiting Senegal's sovereignty.

Yet governing a modern state requires engagement with an interconnected global system.

International lenders, financial markets, foreign investors, development institutions, and trade relationships all influence the choices available to governments.

For President Faye, maintaining constructive relations with international partners may be viewed as essential for preserving macroeconomic stability and financing development, even when others accuse him of compromising with the Bretton Woods Institutions and going back on the electoral promises.

For Sonko and his supporters, excessive accommodation may appear to compromise the transformative vision that inspired the movement's rise. The tension reveals one of the defining questions confronting African states in the twenty-first century on how can countries preserve sovereignty while remaining integrated into the global economy?

The answer is neither isolation nor dependency but that true sovereignty is not the rejection of international engagement. It is the capacity to engage from a position of confidence, strategic clarity, and national purpose.

Diplomacy as the management of power

This debate inevitably leads to a broader reflection on diplomacy. Diplomacy is often described as the



peaceful management of relations among states. While accurate, such a definition overlooks a crucial reality: diplomacy is also the management of power.

Nations negotiate not because power is equally distributed, but because it is not. The effectiveness of diplomacy is influenced by economic strength, technological capacity, political stability, and strategic resources. Africa's diplomatic history reflects this reality.

Long before colonialism, African kingdoms and empires practiced sophisticated diplomacy through alliances, mediation, trade agreements, and political negotiations. Colonial rule disrupted many of these systems, but diplomacy later became a powerful instrument of liberation. African leaders used diplomatic engagements to challenge colonialism, secure international support, and build the foundations of sovereignty.

Today, diplomacy remains central to Africa's future. The challenge is no longer simply achieving political independence. It is transforming political independence into economic resilience, technological advancement, and strategic influence. In this sense, diplomacy is not merely a foreign policy tool. It is an instrument of development and sovereignty.

The politics of resource wealth

The timing of the Sonko and Faye's divide is particularly significant because Senegal is entering a new era as a natural gas producer.

Large scale offshore energy projects have created expectations of accelerated growth, job creation, and economic transformation.

Yet resource wealth often raises difficult questions.

Who controls the revenue? How should wealth be distributed? How much influence should foreign investors possess? How can national interests be protected while attracting capital?

President Faye appears inclined toward preserving contractual stability and investor confidence.

Sonko, who is now the speaker of Parliament and second in command of the state, has consistently emphasized resource sovereignty and stronger national participation in strategic sectors. This debate mirrors conversations taking place across the African continent. Natural resources create opportunities, but they also create political pressures. The management of resource wealth often becomes a test of leadership, institutional strength, and national vision.

What can we learn from this binary dichotomy?

Although Senegal and Namibia have different historical trajectories, Namibia can draw important lessons from this

unfolding political moment.

Institutions must be stronger than individuals

The first lesson is that political stability ultimately depends on institutions rather than personalities.

Political movements may rise around charismatic leaders, but sustainable governance requires mechanisms capable of managing disagreement without threatening national stability.

Strong institutions provide continuity when political alliances evolve or fracture.

The long term health of any democracy depends on the strength of its constitutional structures rather than the popularity of individual leaders.

Liberation legitimacy has limits

A second lesson concerns the evolution of political legitimacy.

Throughout Africa, many ruling parties derived authority from liberation struggles or transformative political movements. However, historical legitimacy alone cannot sustain public confidence indefinitely.

Citizens increasingly judge governments based on performance, economic outcomes, service delivery, and opportunities for future generations. Political history may open the door to power, but effective governance determines whether that power endures. Nevertheless, staying true to the promises and loyalty to a cause is also a great attribute that says one is not blinded by absolute power and does not go back on their promises.

Resource wealth is not development

Namibia's recent oil discoveries have generated significant optimism. Yet Senegal's experience serves as a reminder that resource wealth alone does not guarantee prosperity.

Many nations possess abundant resources while remaining dependent, unequal, or economically vulnerable. The real challenge is converting natural wealth into productive capacity, industrialization, education, infrastructure, innovation, and employment.

Oil and gas should be viewed as tools or instruments of development rather than development itself.

Diplomacy must deliver national capacity

As global competition for African resources intensifies, Namibia faces opportunities similar to those confronting Senegal.

The objective should not simply be attracting foreign investment.

The objective should be negotiating partnerships that strengthen domestic capabilities through technology transfer, skills development, local content participation, and industrial growth. Successful diplomacy is measured not by the volume of agreements signed but by the long term national benefits those agreements generate.

Democracy is tested during disagreement

Perhaps the most important lesson concerns democratic maturity. Political disagreements are inevitable. Leadership transitions are inevitable. Competing visions for development are inevitable.

The true measure of democracy is not the absence of conflict but the ability to manage conflict within institutional frameworks.

Strong democracies survive disagreement because institutions remain stronger than factions. Perhaps one last lesson learned is about the "Trap of Dual

Leadership'. The "Diomaye is Sonko, Sonko is Diomaye" dynamic that won the 2024 election proved unsustainable. Delegating supreme executive power requires a clear definition of roles; a Prime Minister trying to exert more power than the President or a Prime Minister controlling party narratives more than the President can inevitably trigger a constitutional crisis and raises an important question of legitimacy.

Conclusion: Beyond Senegal, toward a broader African reflection

Much of the discussion surrounding the Sonko and Faye divide focuses on political calculations, alliances, and immediate consequences.

Yet the deeper significance of this moment lies elsewhere.

The crisis raises profound questions about power, legitimacy, sovereignty, leadership, and the difficult transition from political aspiration to practical governance. Will Diomaye Faye succeed in convincing people of his legitimacy without Sonko? Nothing is less certain. Will Sonko seek to have him removed from office? The question remains open. The response from Sonko's tone was not rebellion, but it was not submission either. It was something more complex: a recalibration of power.

What we are trying to articulate with unusual clarity is the central contradiction now defining Senegal's leadership. On one level, Bassirou Diomaye Faye is the constitutional head of state, elected by the people and bound to govern for the nation. On another level, Ousmane Sonko remains the political anchor of the movement that made that presidency possible. The result is a dual system of legitimacy—one institutional, the other ideological.

However, this fratricidal duel is overshadowing the country's real difficulties: healthcare, the economy and, above all, youth unemployment. Senegal's experience reflects a challenge confronting many African nations. How can reform movements preserve their ideals once they enter government? How can sovereignty be strengthened in an interconnected world?

How can resource wealth be transformed into broad based development?

How can institutions remain stable when political consensus breaks down?

For Namibia, these questions are particularly relevant as the country enters a new phase shaped by energy discoveries, generational change, and evolving expectations from its citizens. The lesson is clear.

Winning power is not the final destination.

The true challenge lies on what to do with that power and in building institutions capable of reconciling ideals with reality, ambition with responsibility, and political change with national stability. Indeed, Senegal's future political trajectory will depend largely on how the relationship between President Bassirou Diomaye Faye and the new Speaker of Parliament Ousmane Sonko develops. One thing is already certain: Senegal's political landscape is undergoing a profound transformation in which state institutions will increasingly play a central role in redefining the balance of power.

In the end, the future of both Senegal and indeed of Africa as a whole will depend not merely on the leaders who govern, but on the strength of the institutions that endure long after individual leaders have passed from the political stage.

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of our employers or this newspaper. They represent our personal views as citizens and Pan-Africanists.

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\$ / \$	16.5675	08 Jun 2026
N\$ / £	22.1055	08 Jun 2026
N\$ / €	19.1086	08 Jun 2026
N\$ / AOA	0.0177	08 Jun 2026

Repo
6.50
Prime
10.00

www.observer.com.na

PARAGON MEDIA

Namibia a key player in supply of critical minerals

CHAMWE KAIRA

Staff Writer

Namibia has been cited as an important country in the global supply of critical minerals.

At the Critical Minerals Forum's US-Africa Investment Summit, the United States Ambassador to Namibia, John Giordano, delivered a keynote address highlighting Namibia's growing importance in the global race to secure critical minerals, energy resources and integrated industrial systems.

Giordano emphasised that the global economy is entering a new phase in which economic power is increasingly determined not only by access to natural resources but by the ability of countries to build "systems that scale".

These systems connect resources, infrastructure, energy, capital and technology into functioning value chains that can sustain long-term industrial growth.

He noted that while global attention often focuses on digital innovation and artificial intelligence, the foundation of the AI-driven economy remains physical.

Electricity generation, data infrastructure, logistics networks and critical minerals are all essential components underpinning technological advancement.

As global demand for these inputs rises, countries capable of integrating them into efficient systems are expected to gain strategic economic advantage.

In light of this, Africa was described as increasingly central to future global industrial development due to its



John Giordano

mineral wealth, energy potential and rapidly growing population.

However, the US diplomat stressed that long-term success will depend not only on resources but on governance, infrastructure development, transparency and the ability to attract sustained investment.

Namibia was highlighted as a leading example of this approach.

The country is home to significant uranium reserves, ranking as the world's third-largest producer, as well as deposits of rare earth elements such as dysprosium and terbium, along with emerging lithium resources and offshore oil and gas potential.

These assets position Namibia as a potentially important supplier in global energy transition and high-technology supply chains.

Beyond its natural resources, Namibia was presented as actively positioning itself as a strategic hub within a broader Southern African energy and

logistics corridor.

The country is pursuing an integrated development model that links mineral extraction to value addition, aligns energy production with export capacity, and develops infrastructure as interconnected systems rather than isolated projects.

According to the ambassador, this systems-based approach is a key factor attracting international investment, as global capital increasingly seeks environments where projects can move efficiently from planning to construction and operation.

He emphasised that in today's global economy, execution capacity is becoming as important as resource endowment.

The United States was identified as a key partner in supporting Namibia's development strategy through commercial diplomacy and cooperation with institutions such as the US Export-Import Bank, the US International Development Finance Corporation and the US Trade and Development Agency.

These partnerships aim to mobilise financing, reduce investment risk and support infrastructure development across the energy, transport and digital sectors.

Giordano concluded that the next phase of global economic competition will be defined by countries that can effectively connect natural resources to energy systems, infrastructure and industrial production.

In this context, Namibia was presented as an emerging example of how resource-rich countries can leverage governance, investment and infrastructure development to position themselves within global value chains.



Total dividends paid to shareholders by MTC rose by more than 26% from N\$369.5 million to N\$467.1 million during the six months ended 31 March 2026. - Photo: Contributed

GIPF earns N\$134m from MTC shares

CHAMWE KAIRA

Staff Writer

Mobile Telecommunications Limited (MTC) increased its dividend payments to shareholders to N\$467.1 million during the latest reporting period ended 31 March, up from N\$369.5 million paid in the corresponding period a year earlier.

The largest beneficiary of the dividend distribution was the Government of the Republic of Namibia, which received N\$280.9 million, compared to N\$212.1 million in the previous period. The government's stake in MTC is held through the Namibia Post and Telecommunications Holdings Limited (NPTH), which received

N\$222.2 million in the prior period. No dividend allocation was recorded under NPTH in the latest reporting period following changes in the company's shareholding structure. The Government Institutions Pension Fund (GIPF) received dividends of N\$134.4 million, up from N\$106.4 million in the previous period.

Other shareholders collectively received N\$51.8 million, compared to N\$41 million a year earlier. Overall, total dividends paid to shareholders rose by more than 26% from N\$467.1 million, reflecting the telecommunications company's continued profitability and commitment to delivering returns to investors.

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GIPF earns N\$134m from MTC shares

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MTC revenue rose to N\$1.95 billion, driven by prepaid, enterprise and roaming services.

Prepaid services remained the company's largest source of income, contributing N\$1.26 billion in revenue compared to N\$1.15 billion previously.

Usage charges accounted for the bulk of prepaid revenue at N\$1.21 billion, while starter pack sales increased to N\$6.5 million from N\$4.1 million.

Other prepaid-related income rose to N\$38.3 million from N\$34.0 million.

Revenue from contract customers amounted to N\$266.3 million, down from N\$285.6 million in the

comparative period.

Within this segment, monthly subscription fees increased to N\$221.2 million from N\$212.1 million, while usage charges declined to N\$32.1 million from N\$60.6 million.

Contract handset revenue contributed N\$1.4 million.

Roaming income recorded strong growth, rising to N\$101.2 million from N\$69.7 million. The increase was largely driven by visitor roaming revenue, which climbed to N\$97.4 million from N\$62.4 million.

Revenue from contract roaming customers declined to N\$3.9 million from N\$7.3 million.

Handset and accessories sales generated N\$161.0 million, slightly lower than the N\$170.4 million

recorded in the corresponding period.

Enterprise services delivered notable growth, with revenue increasing to N\$101.6 million from N\$76.8 million, highlighting continued demand for business connectivity and digital solutions.

Other revenue streams also contributed to overall performance, including interconnect income of N\$14.1 million, bulk SMS revenue of N\$31.3 million and site rental income of N\$14.7 million.

In the second half of the financial year, MTC said it will focus on driving prepaid revenue growth, accelerating broadband adoption, expanding enterprise contracts, and advancing the monetisation of its digital platforms.



CATALYST

INVESTMENT MANAGERS

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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)	28.05	0.68%
Mobile Telecommunications Limited	9.33	0.54%

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	901.49	4.50%
Paladin Energy Limited	138.02	4.07%
SBN Holdings Ltd	13.21	0.30%
Mobile Telecommunications Limited	9.33	0.21%
Investec Limited	138.23	0.17%

TOP 5 Losers NSX Overall		
Share code	Close	1W%
Sanlam Limited	81.79	-5.80%
Standard Bank Group	304.39	-5.46%
Santam Limited	364.97	-4.63%
FirstRand Limited	90.09	-4.30%

Currencies				
	Close	1D%	%MoM	%YTD
USD/ZAR	16.2832	-0.51%	-2.49%	-2.12%
EUR/ZAR	18.907236	-0.56%	-3.12%	-3.03%
GBP/ZAR	21.87892	-0.41%	-3.31%	-2.01%
USD/EUR	0.8612152	0.01%	0.78%	1.00%

Commodities				
	Close	1D%	%MoM	%YTD
Brent Crude Oil (ICE \$/bbl)	96	1.07%	-11.25%	57.76%
Gold NYMEX Near Term (\$/ozt)	4489.1	0.31%	-3.04%	3.78%
Platinum NYMEX Near Term (\$/ozt)	1937.40	0.78%	-2.97%	-4.77%
Copper Cash Official LME (\$/mt)	13966.00	1.06%	8.31%	11.69%
Uranium Near Term (NYM \$/lbs)	85.90	-0.41%	0.12%	5.27%

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	112,987.06	-0.89%	-1.0%	-1.58%
All Share Industrials	137,662.34	-1.28%	1.0%	-5.50%
Mid Cap	105,684.29	0.14%	-5.3%	-7.01%
Small Cap	106,459.32	-0.93%	-0.1%	-0.45%
Industrial 25	128,489.84	-1.30%	0.9%	-6.03%
Financial 15	24,775.70	-0.58%	-1.5%	0.19%
Resource 10	122,285.38	-0.77%	-2.9%	-0.33%
Top 40	105,239.49	-0.96%	-0.9%	-1.59%

World Market				
Share Code	Close	1D%	%1M	%YTD
FTSE100	10,373.51	0.33%	0.09%	-1.58%
S&P500	7,565.96	0.13%	5.25%	-5.50%
DAX	24,795.94	0.48%	3.42%	-7.01%
ASX	8,785.70	-0.06%	-0.06%	-0.45%
NASDAQ	26,863.33	0.03%	7.88%	-6.03%
NSX Overall	2,338.53	-0.72%	3.48%	12.30%
NSX Local	838.97	0.04%	0.79%	9.32%

Geopolitical tensions threaten fiscal outlook

CHAMWE KAIRA
Staff Writer

In light of geopolitical tensions and economic disruptions, achieving the proposed fiscal outcomes for the 2026/27 financial year will require significant improvements in how offices, ministries and agencies (OMAs) manage their daily operations.

Prime Minister Elijah Ngurare says Namibia is standing at a critical juncture as it prepares to implement its 2026/27 national budget of N\$87.9 billion, a fiscal framework he says was tabled under initially stable global conditions that have since shifted sharply due to the ongoing war in the Middle East.

Ngurare told a budget reform rollout workshop held in Windhoek that the changing global environment is already exerting pressure on Namibia's economy.

He warned that higher imported inflation through fuel and food prices, rising shipping and import costs, and weaker external demand are likely to weigh on growth prospects and fiscal stability.

He further noted that these developments highlight the need for stronger policy discipline, resilience and structural reform as the government moves to safeguard macroeconomic stability.

At the time of the budget's presentation, public debt stood at N\$174.6 billion, representing 65.2% of GDP, while the fiscal deficit for the current year is projected at 5.5% of GDP.

Given this situation, Ngurare said achieving the targeted fiscal outcomes for the 2026/27 financial year would depend heavily on improved operational efficiency across all OMAs, particularly in managing expenditure and ensuring strict budget discipline.

He stressed that the government's broader fiscal consolidation plan, which aims to reduce the deficit from 5.5% of GDP in 2026/27 to 3.3% by 2028/29, is not merely a technical adjustment but a strategic imperative



Elijah Ngurare

to restore fiscal space, strengthen investor confidence and place public finances on a more sustainable path. "This adjustment will require discipline across all votes, stricter control over non-priority expenditure, and a shared understanding that every dollar saved today creates room for more productive investment tomorrow," he said.

Ngurare further warned that achieving the required fiscal adjustment would demand annual savings of about N\$2.3 billion over the medium-term expenditure framework period, calling for early identification of savings, protection during execution, and safeguards against spending slippages.

He added that fiscal consolidation cannot rely on spending cuts alone but must also be supported by stronger economic growth through well-targeted public investments that crowd in private sector participation, expand economic opportunity and improve service delivery.

To drive this approach, the government will pilot outcome-based

budgeting in eight offices, ministries and agencies from the second quarter of 2026.

The offices include the ministries of education, innovation, youth, sports, arts and culture; health and social services; home affairs, immigration, safety and security; agriculture, fisheries, water and land reform; finance; industries, mines and energy; environment, forestry and tourism; and works and transport.

The rollout will later be expanded to remaining OMAs from the 2027/28 financial year, with full implementation expected within the current MTEF period running from 2026/27 to 2028/29.

Ngurare also issued a strong warning against the diversion of development funds to recurrent expenditure, saying such practices undermine long-term growth and must come to an end. "Capital investment is the engine of long-term growth," he said, adding that every dollar diverted from infrastructure, education, water systems or digital platforms represents a deferred cost to future generations.

CRAN gets 624 Starlink reconsideration applications

Staff Writer

The Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia (CRAN) has received 624 applications for reconsideration following its decision on the licence application submitted by Starlink Internet Services Namibia (Pty) Ltd. In a statement issued yesterday, CRAN said members of the public and interested stakeholders had exercised their right to request a reconsideration of the decision within the period prescribed by law.

The regulator clarified that none of the reconsideration applications were submitted by Starlink itself.

Instead, all 624 applications were lodged by members of the public and other stakeholders who were aggrieved by the decision.

CRAN said the reconsideration requests follow its media release of 24 March 2026, in which affected parties were informed of the opportunity to challenge the decision through the formal reconsideration process.

According to the authority, all applications received will be processed in accordance with the provisions of the Communications Act (No. 8 of 2009) and relevant regulatory procedures.

CRAN executive for communication and consumer relations, Mufaro Nesongano, said the authority recognises the increased public interest surrounding the matter and will ensure that all applications are handled through established legal and regulatory channels.

The regulator said it will provide further updates once the reconsideration process has been completed.

The development highlights continued public interest in Starlink's efforts to secure the necessary licences to operate in Namibia, with the outcome of the reconsideration process expected to determine the next steps in the matter.

When its application was rejected,



Mufaro Nesongano

Starlink said CRAN's decision was based on a misunderstanding of its operations and compliance. CRAN had cited failure to meet ownership and regulatory requirements in its decision. Starlink said it has, over the past three years, committed to setting up a local entity, meeting national security requirements and paying taxes and fees in line with its operations in 164 markets.

Starlink added that the main issue is Namibia's local ownership rule, which requires at least 51% local shareholding. At the time, Starlink said it could not meet this requirement due to global shareholding restrictions. The company operates in several African countries, including Nigeria, Kenya, Mozambique, Zambia, Ghana and Botswana.

Green entrepreneurs invited to pitch for funding

Staff Writer

Green entrepreneurs in Namibia are being encouraged to enter the 2026 FNF Afri GreenPitch Challenge, a continental competition designed to support and scale innovative small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in the green economy.

The challenge, which is open to participants from Botswana, eSwatini, Kenya, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa and Tanzania, is aimed at businesses developing practical, market-ready solutions in areas such as circular economy and waste management, renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, sustainable mobility, and water and wastewater management.

Organised by GreenCape and Westerwelle Startup Haus Mombasa, in partnership with the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (FNF Africa), the initiative seeks to identify pre-growth green businesses that are already registered, trading, generating sales,

and in need of funding to scale. Entries for the 2026 edition close at noon on 30 June 2026, with applications submitted via an online entry form on the programme's website.

Successful applicants will be selected to pitch their business ideas in 'shark tank-style' sessions to panels of investors and judges at events scheduled for Nairobi, Kenya, and Cape Town, South Africa, in September 2026.

Participants will also gain access to networking opportunities with investors, incubators, government decision-makers and green economy experts.

The competition will award winners and finalists cash and in-kind prizes valued at approximately US\$20,000, supported in part by RMB Ventures. FNF Africa says the expanded programme marks a step in building a stronger pan-African innovation ecosystem.

"This expanded partnership reflects our commitment to empowering entrepreneurs, advancing regional collaboration and supporting

market-driven solutions for Africa's green future," said programme manager Khwezi Sogoni. RMB Ventures highlighted the growing momentum in the sector, noting a steady increase in high-quality entries over the past three years as awareness of sustainability opportunities rises.

From the startup ecosystem side, Westerwelle Startup Haus Mombasa said the competition provides a vital platform for entrepreneurs to access capital, expertise and networks beyond their local markets. GreenCape added that SMEs remain central to job creation and sustainable economic growth, stressing the importance of strengthening ecosystems that support green innovation across the continent.

For Namibian entrepreneurs, the challenge presents an opportunity to showcase homegrown solutions to pressing environmental challenges while connecting to regional investors and partners shaping Africa's green economy future.



The FNF Afri GreenPitch Challenge is a continental competition designed to support and scale innovative small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in the green economy. - Photo: Contributed

OL launches "OL Legends" programme

Staff Writer

OL has officially launched its OL Legends Alumni Programme, a new initiative designed to recognise former employees who have contributed to the group's development over more than a century of operations.

The programme was unveiled at an inaugural event held in Windhoek, bringing together former and current employees to mark what the company described as a milestone in preserving its corporate legacy and strengthening long-term relationships with its people.

Speaking at the launch, OL chief experience officer Franziska Rüeck said the initiative reflects the group's commitment to honouring its history and extending its culture beyond employment.

She noted that many former employees had already embodied the values now formally captured in the OL Persona.

Executive chairman Sven Thieme said the programme recognises the role generations of employees have played in building the organisation over its 106-year history.

He highlighted the importance of relationships, shared experiences and continuity, adding that former employees remain part of the group's future.

"People brought us here. Authentic people, caring people, passionate



OL has officially launched its OL Legends Alumni Programme. - Photo: Contributed

people. You helped build our businesses, you shaped our persona, and you remain part of our future," Thieme said.

Former OL Human Capital Director Berthold Mukuahima said the programme reinforces the message that contribution is remembered and valued beyond employment.

Former group chief operations officer Günther Hanke added that experience remains a key organisational asset and said the programme creates opportunities for mentorship and knowledge sharing between former

and current employees. Representing younger staff, OL Centre employee Ellen Geingos reflected on the importance of organisational culture, saying it is built through everyday interactions rather than formal structures.

She expressed appreciation for the foundation laid by earlier generations of employees and the standards they established.

The OL Legends programme is open to former employees who served at least five consecutive years and left the group in good standing.

Retirees, voluntary resignees and employees affected by restructuring may qualify, subject to alignment with company values.

According to OL, the initiative is built around three core objectives including honouring past contributions, strengthening connections between former and current employees, and supporting future development through mentorship and knowledge exchange.

The group noted that any benefits linked to the programme are discretionary and may change over

time, and are not contractual in nature.

Founded in 1919, OL is one of Namibia's largest privately held business groups, with operations spanning sectors including fishing, aquaculture, dairy, meat processing, retail, property, hospitality, renewable energy, engineering and IT services. The OL Group operates through subsidiaries such as Hangana Seafood, Namibia Dairies, Hartlief, Broll Namibia, OL Leisure, OL Energy, Kraatz, Mach 10, OL Centre and OL BrandX.

Middle East disruptions cut airline industry profits in half

Staff Writer

The global airline industry's profitability has been cut roughly in half due to war-related disruptions in the Middle East and higher fuel prices, according to the latest financial outlook released by the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

The industry is now expected to generate a combined net profit of US\$23.0 billion in 2026, down from a previous projection of US\$41 billion and almost half of the estimated US\$45 billion recorded in 2025. Net profit margins are forecast to fall to 2.0% in 2026, compared with 4.2% in 2025.

Despite the decline in profitability, overall revenues are expected to rise 9.4% to US\$1.165 trillion in 2026, driven by continued growth in passenger demand.

Passenger numbers are projected to reach 5.1 billion, up 2.4% from 2025, while cargo volumes are expected to edge up 0.2% to 71.7 million tonnes.

However, the report highlights increased pressure on profitability across the sector.

Operating profit is forecast to fall to US\$48.0 billion in 2026 from US\$76.4 billion in 2025, while return on invested capital is expected to drop to 4.3%, below the estimated weighted average cost of capital of 8.5%, highlighting structural weaknesses in the industry.

Regional performance is expected to vary sharply.

Airlines in the Middle East are projected to fall into losses due to weak



The airline industry's profitability has been cut roughly in half due to war-related disruptions in the Middle East. - Photo: Contributed

demand and operational disruptions linked to the conflict, while other regions are still expected to remain profitable, albeit at reduced levels compared to earlier forecasts.

Fuel costs remain a pressure point, with jet fuel prices reportedly up about

70%. Net profit per passenger is expected to fall to US\$4.50, down from US\$9.10 in 2025.

IATA director general Willie Walsh said the combined impact of geopolitical instability and rising fuel

prices has significantly weakened industry performance, noting that airlines are "bearing the brunt" of the fuel price shock.

He added that while carriers have adjusted fares and improved efficiency, these measures have not been enough

to offset rising costs. Walsh also pointed out that, even in stronger years, the airline industry typically operates on thin margins and returns below its cost of capital, meaning that external shocks quickly erode profitability.



Corporate-speak: When your workmate shows their true colors

PROFESSOR GARY MARTIN

The writer and professor is CEO of the Australian Institute of Management Western Australia and a workplace and social affairs expert.

You are almost certain to have met one at some point in your working life.

The workplace chameleon.

No, this is not a colorful reptile.

We are talking about the colleague who changes their view depending on who is in the room. One moment, they appear fiercely committed to a course of action. The next, they seem to have shed that view as easily as an old skin.

Every workplace needs people who can adjust to the moment without changing who they are. That's because a person who treats every conversation as if it requires exactly the same words, tone, and timing will soon run into difficulty. After all, different situations call for different tones, levels of detail, and degrees of formality.

Making that sort of adjustment is not fake. It is part of working well and getting on with others. Good communicators know how to shift gears without changing the overall message. They can be warm with one person and firm with another while still holding the same basic values and views.

In other words, there is a world of difference between being socially aware and being slippery.

The problem begins when

adapting to the situation turns into changing one's position. The workplace chameleon does not simply adjust their style: they adjust their overall stance. Their opinion bends towards whoever holds the most power in the room. Their support depends on who is in the audience, and their loyalty seems less like a principle and more like a costume change.

In one meeting, they strongly support an idea. In the next, they distance themselves from it. With one manager, they agree that change is urgent. With another, they suggest caution is needed. Ask them where they stand and the answer often depends on who is standing nearby.

To some, this might look like flexibility. But for the workplace chameleon, it is often just a façade, with views changing color to suit the room. And when views keep shifting simply to suit the audience, people begin to wonder what the person really believes. Workplace chameleons are not always acting with bad intent. Sometimes they are simply trying to please. At other times, they are avoiding conflict or staying on the safest side of every conversation. But constant color-changing comes at a cost. It leaves others uncertain, weakens decisions, and makes honest discussion harder. It also forces colleagues to spend too much time reading the room and not enough time reading the issue itself.

Of course, it is easy to blame the chameleon and sometimes that

blame is well deserved. Some people use color-changing as a career strategy. They flatter upwards, criticize sideways and disappear from responsibility when the heat goes up a notch or two. They are masters of the meeting mood and experts in professional self-preservation. But not every workplace chameleon is scheming. Some people learn to blend in because the workplace has taught them that honesty is risky. When leaders punish bad news, people start offering brighter shades. When managers reward agreement over insight, employees learn to match the dominant color.

When speaking up leads to being labeled negative, difficult or 'not a team player', many decide it is safer to keep changing colors than to stand firm. In that sort of culture, camouflage can start to look less like manipulation and more like protection. In the end, there will always be some color in workplace life. People will adjust their tone, soften their message, pick their moment and choose their words. That is not the problem.

The problem arises when too much energy goes into blending in and not enough goes into speaking with backbone. The workplace chameleon may survive by changing colors but trust grows around people who are prepared to show their true ones.

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Culture eats training

An organisation can invest in the best training available — bring in expert facilitators, develop polished content, and schedule employees into every programme on the calendar — and still see very little change.

Why? Because training does not operate in isolation. It enters a living environment called culture, and culture always has the final word.

This is what people mean when they say culture eats training. Training introduces ideas, skills, and new ways of working. Culture decides whether those things survive once employees return to their desks. If the workplace rewards old habits, avoids accountability, discourages feedback, or resists change, even excellent training will struggle to produce results. Employees may leave a session motivated, but motivation fades quickly when the environment pulls them back into the same unhelpful patterns.

This is why organisations sometimes mistake training for the solution when the deeper issue is cultural. A workshop on communication will not help much if managers still shut people down. Leadership training will not create stronger leaders if the culture punishes initiative and rewards control. Team development will have limited impact if mistrust, blame, or poor behaviour remain untouched. In these cases, training is not failing because the content is weak. It is failing because the

culture is stronger.

Culture works through everyday signals. It shows people what is really valued. Not the values written on the wall, but the behaviours that are rewarded, tolerated, or ignored. If employees are trained to collaborate but individual competition is what gets recognised, they will follow the culture, not the course. If they are encouraged to think critically but punished for questioning decisions, they will quickly learn that silence is safer.

This does not mean training is unimportant. It means training must work with culture, not against it.

For learning to stick, leaders need to reinforce it. Managers need to model it. Teams need space to practise it. The workplace must support the new behaviour instead of quietly pushing people back to the old one.

That is why successful organisations do more than deliver training. They prepare the environment around it. They ask whether policies, leadership habits, team dynamics, and performance expectations are aligned with what the training is trying to achieve. They understand that development is not just about what people learn, but about what the culture allows them to become.

In the end, people do not sustain what the system quietly rejects. Training can start change, but culture determines whether change lasts.

If organisations want better results from learning, they must stop asking only whether the training was good. They must also ask a harder question: does our culture make it possible for this learning to live?



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Idris Elba: 'Don't try to make James Bond woke'



Sir Idris Elba - Photo: Contributed

British actor Sir Idris Elba has said that James Bond shouldn't become "woke" and that some audiences would not accept a black male playing 007.

Sir Idris, who has previously said that he was "never in the race" to play the famous spy despite years of rumours, told GQ that he was nevertheless flattered by the suggestion. He said that Bond "was written how he was written for a reason", but added he was "complimented" by being linked to the role.

"In realistic terms, some markets just don't go for that," Sir Idris said. "Bond is big all over the world. And [audiences] won't [all] go for a black male, an African male, playing Bond. That's not what they like in their culture. Period."

Sir Idris continued: "Bond is so unrealistic, so a hint of reality is good,

but let's not try and make it woke. I think you've got to be pure to what it is: escapism. Don't try to answer the world's taste. Just be Bond."

The actor, who is currently starring in the film *Masters of the Universe* as Man-at-Arms, joked about the fact his latest character - a 1980s cartoon character with a ginger moustache - looked nothing like him.

"Talk about recasting," he says. "I was a bit conscious about it. But then I was like, 'What are you talking about?! Man-At-Arms could be any colour! He's got green legs, for God's sake!'"

Rumoured casting

The search for the next 007 officially began last month, after years of anticipation and speculation about who will take over from Daniel Craig.

Auditions have been taking place in recent weeks, according to Hollywood outlet *Variety*, and the statement signals the beginning of the end of the long wait for a new James Bond.

"While we don't plan to comment on specific details during the casting process, we're excited to share more news with 007 fans as soon as the time is right," Amazon added. It's been five years since the release of *No Time To Die*, Craig's final film as the famous spy.

The studio has already announced that the next movie will be directed by *Dune*'s Denis Villeneuve and written by *Peaky Blinders* creator Steven Knight.

Variety reported that Nina Gold, one of Hollywood's leading casting directors, who has worked on the *Paddington*, *Star Wars*, *Jurassic Park* and *Mamma Mia!* franchises, is conducting the search for a new lead actor. Rumoured possibles for the role include Callum Turner - who recently married Dua Lipa - Henry Cavill and Aaron Taylor-Johnson. - BBC

Stormzy among stars remembering killed Grammy winner

Tributes have been paid to a Grammy-winning musician, known professionally as Talay Riley, who died in a double stabbing in east London.

The 35-year-old singer-songwriter, whose real name was Mark Orabiyi, worked on tracks for artists such as Dua Lipa, Zendaya, Khalid, Flo and Chipmunk.

Stormzy and JLS star Oritse Williams are among those who have sent condolences to Orabiyi's family, with rapper Wretch 32 posting: "Your brother was a gem & will be missed & never forgotten."

Orabiyi was discovered with stab wounds in a garden in Rayleigh Road, Silvertown shortly after 09:00 BST on 5 June. He was pronounced dead on arrival at the hospital.

The musician worked on hits including Khalid's *Young Dumb & Broke*, The Chainsmokers' *Who Do You Love*, HER's *Lights*

On, Flo's *Walk Like This*, and Kehlani's *Out The Window*.

'Outpouring of love' His brother Michael Orabiyi, better known as record producer and songwriter Scribz Riley, wrote on Instagram that his heart was "shattered".

Stormzy commented on the post, saying "I'm sorry bro", while former X-Factor star Williams wrote: "Sending you and your family strength and prayers..." SugaBabes star Keisha Buchanan also paid tribute, writing: "Sending my condolences and prayers, so very sorry."

In his Instagram post, Michael Orabiyi said his brother was a "friend to many, a mentor, an inspiration, and a light in so many people's lives".

He added: "He loved deeply, gave freely, and touched countless people through his talent, kindness, and spirit."

"The outpouring of love already shows how many lives he impacted. You inspired so many

people and your legacy will continue to live on through your music..."

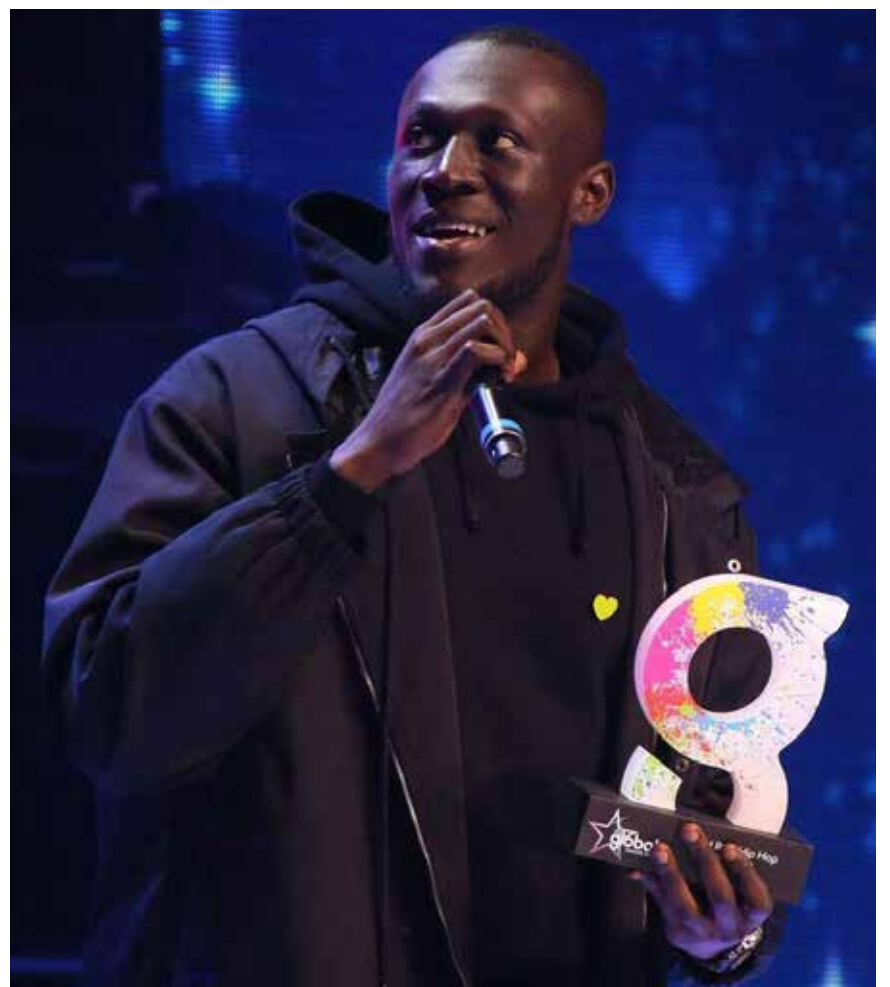
The second victim, a man in his 20s, is being treated for multiple stab wounds but his injuries are not life-threatening or life-changing, police said.

Three people have been arrested on suspicion of murdering Orabiyi.

A 27-year-old man has been released on bail pending further enquiries, while a man aged 24 and a woman, 25, have been released with no further action. Det Ch Insp Joanna Yorke, from the Metropolitan Police, said: "Our investigation continues at pace. I would like to appeal for anyone who was in the area at the time of this incident to speak to police."

"We are particularly interested in hearing from anyone who might have CCTV or other footage from the morning of the incident that could assist our investigation."

-BBC




Talay Riley - Photo: Contributed



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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@dpe.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)

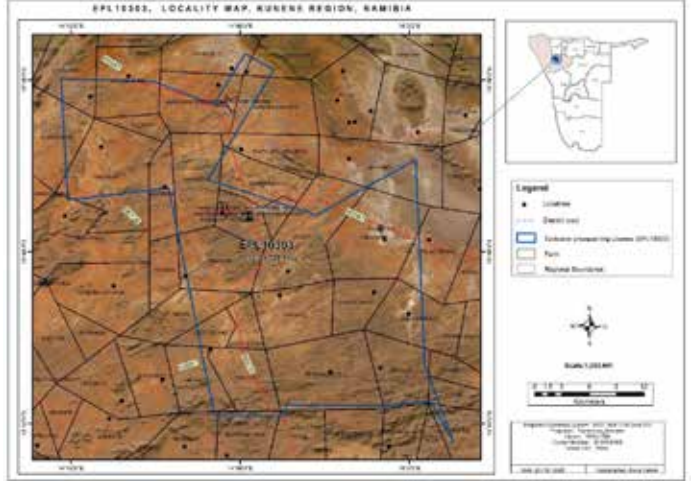
NOTICE FOR THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING

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

☎: +264 81 6680633

✉: 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 23rd May 2026 at Okanguati, Epupa Constituency, Kunene Region @ 10h00.

For any inquiries please contact;

Consultant: Omapipi Tageya Archaeological and Heritage Consultants cc

☎: +264 81 6680633

✉: otahconsultants@gmail.com



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Didier Deschamps

Emotion and celebration for Deschamps' home farewell

ANDY GRAY
BBC SPORT NI JOURNALIST AT THE
DECATHLON ARENA, LILLE

The World Cup will mark the end of an era as Didier Deschamps prepares to wave goodbye to France after the finals.

Already a World Cup-winning captain in 1998, Deschamps became only the third man to win the World Cup as a player and a manager in 2018 when he led France to the biggest prize in football.

When France play their final game at the World Cup it will be the end of a 14-year tenure, and in Monday's friendly with Northern Ireland in Lille, the 57-year-old will lead his nation for one final time on home soil before they head to the USA. It is likely to be a night filled with emotion.

"I can imagine the state of mind of Didier after all this time spent with the French team," midfielder Adrien Rabiot said.

"We're all human beings, we have compassion, we have emotions and everything that comes along with it. "The coach has done a great job

with the French team and I hope that he will be celebrated, because he deserves it."

As Rabiot predicts, celebrations in Lille are likely.

In their previous game in Nantes on Thursday - a surprise 2-1 defeat by the Ivory Coast - fans paid tribute to Deschamps by holding up cardboard cut outs which bore his image during the match.

But for the manager, he is not letting his own farewell take away from the team's send off.

"Ever since I came in to camp, there's lots of things that I've done for the last time, so I'm not trying to think about all these things.

"I'm not too sad, I'm not going to be happy about it. What's important for me is beyond my personal case." Deschamps, who has also guided France to the last World Cup final, the Euro 2016 final and the Nations League title in 2021, thanked the French support for the gesture.

Les Bleus will play Senegal, Iraq and Erling Haaland's Norway in Group I in the USA, and Deschamps wants "the positive things" from fans before they head to the finals.

"The tribute was nice, and even

though it was during the match and the players were playing, I was trying to be focused on what's happening on the field," he added.

"These two matches in France before we leave for the US, being close to the supporters and lots of the people who are not able to go to the US, we're trying to get as much energy, trying to get as much good vibes from the supporters as we can, and these are positive things for the French team."

'He includes everyone'

With such a long stint as manager, AC Milan midfielder Rabiot said Deschamps' "ability to being players together" was one of his main strengths.

"He includes everyone. It's really important and it's crucial to be able to build like that.

"Training is really professional, but they can also be a little fun. It's important to have a mix, especially entering a competition like the World Cup.

"It can be tough. It's a long competition and his strength is probably the management of his players.

"We've been together for a while

so we know what he expects from us, and it's such a long-lasting competition that the players' management is important."

Despite the shock loss to the Ivory Coast, Deschamps feels the confidence in the squad has not been dented.

After missing that defeat, Arsenal defender William Saliba and PSG's Champions League winners Ousmane Dembele and Desire Doue are all available to play in Lille.

When asked about worrying about playing a friendly before going to the finals and the threat of injury, Rabiot said it was "the last rehearsal" before they play Senegal on 16 June in New Jersey.

"We don't use this match as a friendly," he said.

"We want to do well and we want to take pleasure in playing.

"We want to enjoy the moment. It's really hard to start playing 50% and it's complicated.

"You have to play fully and having in the back of our heads that this is the last rehearsal and it would be good to finish on a good note, in order to arrive in the US with lots of confidence built." -BBC

GOSSIP

Spurs are making progress with negotiations to sign Manchester City winger Savinho, Manchester United are battling their city rivals for Nottingham Forest midfielder Elliot Anderson, while Atletico Madrid and Barcelona are eyeing Chelsea full-back Marc Cucurella.

Tottenham are advancing in talks over a deal worth about £60m for Manchester City's Brazil winger Savinho, 22. (Mail), external

Manchester United remain intent on signing Elliot Anderson, with the club's executives optimistic they can beat Manchester City in the race to acquire the 23-year-old England midfielder, who is valued at about £100m by Nottingham Forest. (Guardian), external

Anderson is said to have expressed a desire to join Manchester City over Manchester United. (Talksport), external

Atletico Madrid and Barcelona are best positioned to make a move for Chelsea's Marc Cucurella, 26, with the Spain defender keen on a change of scenery after four years at Stamford Bridge. (Marca - in Spanish), external

Newcastle will target Monaco's 22-year-old Senegal midfielder Lamine Camara should Italy's Sandro Tonali or Englishman Joe Willock, both 26, be among the midfielders to leave St James' Park this summer. (Telegraph - subscription required), external

Manchester United scouts assessed highly rated Inter Milan striker Pio Esposito, 20, in action for Italy in a friendly against Greece. (Teamtalk), external

Paris St-Germain's 27-year-old France forward Randal Kolo Muani, who spent last season on loan at Tottenham, wants to join Juventus where he had a six-month loan spell in 2025. (Tuttosport - in Italian), external

Manchester City are weighing up moves for Real Madrid's Brazil winger Rodrygo, 25, and 26-year-old Everton and Senegal wideman Iliman Ndiaye. (Mail), external