

Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade

# **ANNUAL REPORT** 2021/2022

#### © Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade

Published by the Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade, 2022. Reproduction is permitted, provided the source is acknowledged.

#### **Physical Address**

Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade Brendan Simbwaye Square, Block B Cnr. Dr. Kenneth Kaunda & Goethe Streets Windhoek

#### **Postal Address**

Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade Private Bag 13340 Windhoek Namibia

Annual Report compiled by Elijah Mukubonda: Corporate Communication subdivision of the Ministry

LayOut & Design by Kalahari Reporters

Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade: Contact Centre: +264 61 283 73111 Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade: website: www.mit.gov.na



## Foreword

t gives me great pleasure to briefly refer in this Foreword to the scope of work for the year under review and to share with the reader what can be expected of the Ministry in the short to medium term. As a Ministry, we look back at 2021 and realize that the Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade has indeed made meaningful strides in honoring its commitment and mandate towards creating an enabling environment for increased domestic and foreign direct investment and accelerating trade and industrial development. We also made progress in terms of positioning and safeguarding Namibia's interests in the regional and global economy.

This year's Annual Report is a reflection of MIT's sterling work done in providing essential facts about the Ministry's mandate, which hinges around promoting growth and development; attract investment; increase trade; develop and expand the country's industrial base. This edition of the report will inform the reader of the Ministry's various outreach programs around the globe and opportunities utilized on a wide range of platforms to communicate the Ministry's strategies; outward missions; approaches and concepts with stakeholders as well as cooperating partners with a view to achieve a prosperous and industrialised Namibia, as envisaged in Namibia Vision 2030. Below, are some of the many highlights from MIT's industrious and productive 2021 programme:

- 1. In May 2021, the Ministry launched the second phase of the "Buy local Grow Namibia" crusade seeks to drive and inculcate the mind of Namibians to consume locally produced goods and services.
- 2. In August 2021, the Ministry facilitated regional business consultations to discuss and exchange ideas in the provinces on how the business people and traders can better support local manufacturing and value chain-

based based industrialisation to actively resuscitate the Namibian economy and business revival.

- 3. In September 2021, the Ministry with support from the Namibia Trade Forum in partnership with the Namibia Barcode Centre launched the Namibia Consumer Protection Policy and GS1 License. The main objective of the National Consumer Protection Policy (NCPP) was to encourage both domestic and international consumers to invest and participate in the economic growth and prosperity of Namibia. Similarly, the Minister propelled the GS1 Namibia Centre, which is recognized as a member to the GS1 Global Office that allocate barcodes to identify goods and services produced locally. The primary functions are to administer, facilitate and allocate barcodes to locally produced goods and services as the official GS1 center in country.
- 4. In March 2022, MIT participated at the Annual Investment Meeting (AIM) and Investment Summit at the concluded Expo 2020 in Dubai (United Arab Emirates). The AIM pedestal served to share best practices on the means of promoting economic development in Africa through entrepreneurship and innovation.
- 5. Pursuance of the Namibia Investment Promotion and Facilitation Act (NIPFA) to promote sustainable economic development and growth through the mobilization and attraction of foreign and Namibian investment to enhance economic development, reduce unemployment, accelerate growth and diversify the economy post Covid -19.

As we enter a new phase in Namibia's march to economic independence with the consolidation of our democracy, I want to once again thank all MIT staff for their commitment and dedication in enabling the Ministry to execute its mandate with distinction.



## Abbreviations



Contents	
MIT MANAGEMENT TEAM	1
EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT	1
MANAGEMENT	2
GENERAL INFORMATION	4
MISSION	4
VISION CORE VALUES	4 5
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	5
LEGISLATIVE MANDATE	5
PUBLIC ENTITIES REPORTING TO THE MINISTER	6
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR 2021	8
NAMIBIA CONSUMER PROTECTION POLICY AND GS1 LICENSE LAUNCH	8
DEPUTY MINISTER SENDS OFF NIPDB FIRST PREPARATORY TEAM AND START-UPS TO DUBAI	9
NAMIBIA RECOGNISES OUTSTANDING EXPORTERS	9
BUY LOCAL-GROW NAMIBIA	10
LAUNCH OF THE SECOND PHASE OF THE "BUY LOCAL GROW NAMIBIA" CAMPAIGN BUY LOCAL GROW NAMIBIA CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP	10 10
PEUGEOT OPEL ASSEMBLY NAMIBIA ENGAGEMENT	11
REGIONAL BUSINESS CONSULTATION	11
BIPA BRANCH OFFICE INAUGURATION	12
VIRTUAL MINISTERIAL STAFF ADDRESS	13
KEY MISSIONS LED BY THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIALIZATION AND TRADE	14
ANNUAL INVESTMENT MEETING 2022	14
NAMIBIA INVESTMENT SUMMIT IN DUBAI SECOND NIPDB PREPARATORY TEAM AND START-UPS OFF TO DUBAI	14 16
NAMIBIAN CHARCOAL SENT-OFF TO USA	16
NAMIBIA PROMOTIONAL DAY IN DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA	17
PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE	19
AIM OF VOTE	19
	19
INDUSTRIAL AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT TRADE PROMOTION AND COMMERCE	19 20
INVESTMENT PROMOTION	21
SUPERVISION AND SUPPORT SERVICES	21
SPECIAL INDUSTRIALISATION INITIATIVE	21
ADDRESS LIST MINISTRY AND FOREIGN ECONOMIC OFFICES	<b>22</b> 22
CONTACT DETAILS FOR THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIALISATION, TRADE AND SME DEVELOPMENT LIST OF REGIONAL OFFICES	22
LIST OF EXTERNAL TRADE/ COMMERCIAL OFFICES	23
MINISTER'S STATEMENT AT ANNUAL INVESTMENT MEETING (AIM) 2022	24
MIT IN PICTURES	26
CONCLUSION	28

## **MIT Management Team**

## **EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT**



Hon. Lucia lipumbu Minister (MP)



Hon. Verna Sinimbo **Deputy Minister** 



Mr. Sikongo Haihambo **Executive Director** 

## MANAGEMENT



Dr. Michael Humavindu Deputy Executive Director Industrial Development

Ms. Dolly Amoomo

Mr. Phineas Shinyala

**Regional Economic** 

**Deputy Director** 

Development

**Investment Promotion** 

Director



Ms.Ndiitah Nghipondoka Robiati Deputy Executive Director International Trade and Commerce



Ms. Patricia Liswaniso Director International Trade



Ms. Meriam Silishebo Deputy Director Finance & Administration



Mr. Sakeus Kapenda Deputy Director Trade Promotion



Mr. Josef Shikongo Deputy Director Weights, Measures and Standards, Trade and Commerce



Ms. Diina Nashidengo Director Commerce



Ms. Angela Dau-Pretorius Deputy Director Investor Services



Mr. Salom Haidula Deputy Director Consumer Protection & IMR



Mr. Peyependa Nghaamwa Director General Services



Ms. Ilona Nkandi Asino Acting Director Industrial Development



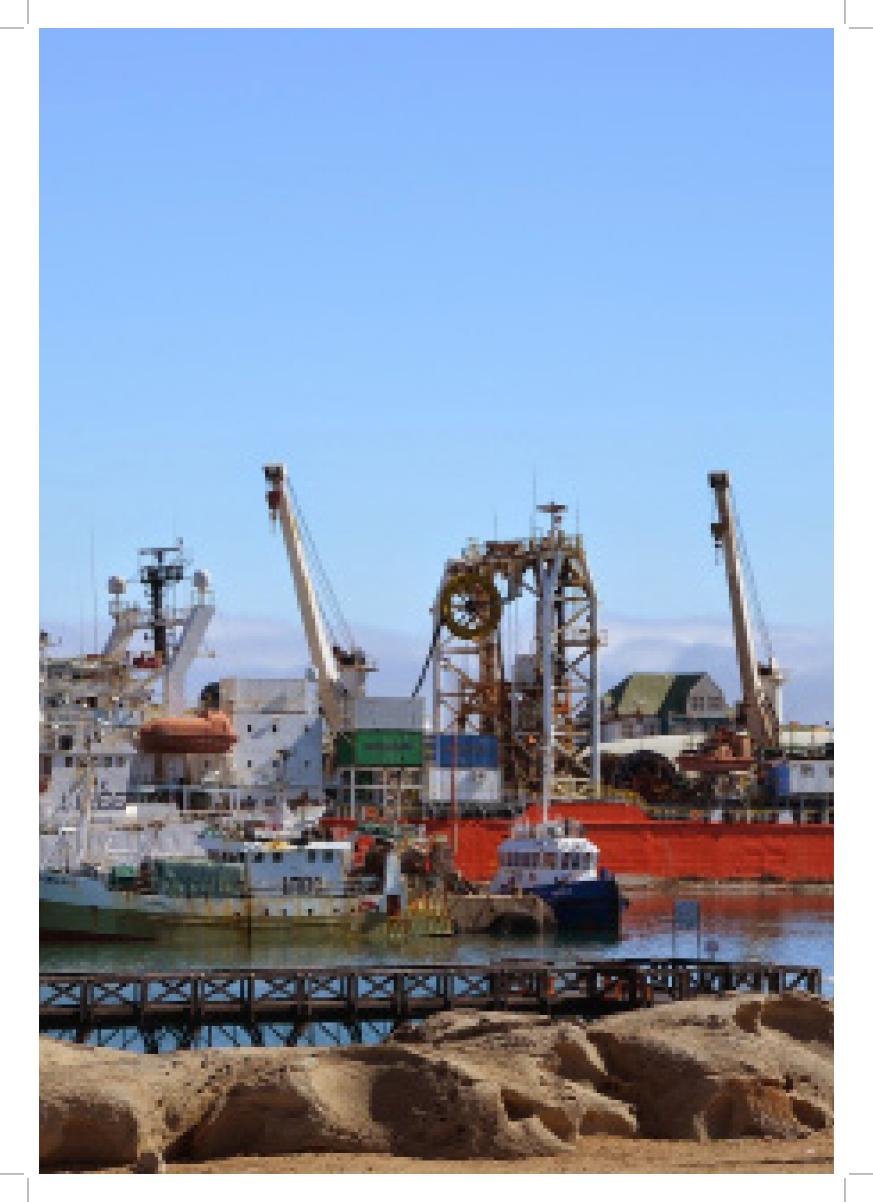
Mr. Asser Nashikaku Deputy Director Trade Agreements





Ms. Selma Shivute Deputy Director Information technology

2



# PART ONE

## **General Information**

### VISION

To be the leading Ministry in the drive towards industrialization, the realization of an export-driven economy and making Namibia a preferred FDI destination in order to achieve increased and sustainable economic benefits and employment for Namibians and international competitiveness.

### MISSION

To create an enabling environment for increased domestic and foreign direct investment, trade and industrial development, and to position and safeguard the interest of Namibia in the regional and global economy.

The Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade is responsible for the development and management of Namibia's economic regulatory regime, on the basis of which the country's domestic and external economic relations are conducted. It promotes growth and development of the economy through the formulation and implementation of appropriate policies to attract investment, increase trade, develop and expand the country's industrial base.

MINISTRY OF INDSTRIALISATION & TRADE ANNUAL REPORT 2021/2022

### **CORE VALUES**

Integrity: Consistent, Honest and Trustworthy in our dealings with Clientele and stakeholders

Quality: Deliver Quality and Standard services in line with the Public Service Charter

Transparency: Perform our duties in a fair, open and honest manner

Accountability: Be responsible and accountable in the performance of our duties

Efficiency: Deliver timely, efficient and effective service to the public

**Professionalism:** Provide and execute our duties in a competent and skillful manner Creativity and Innovation: Strive towards Creativity and Innovation to improve productivity in a cost and effective manner

Foresight: Foresee problems and take proactive actions to respond swiftly and effectively to challenges

## **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES**

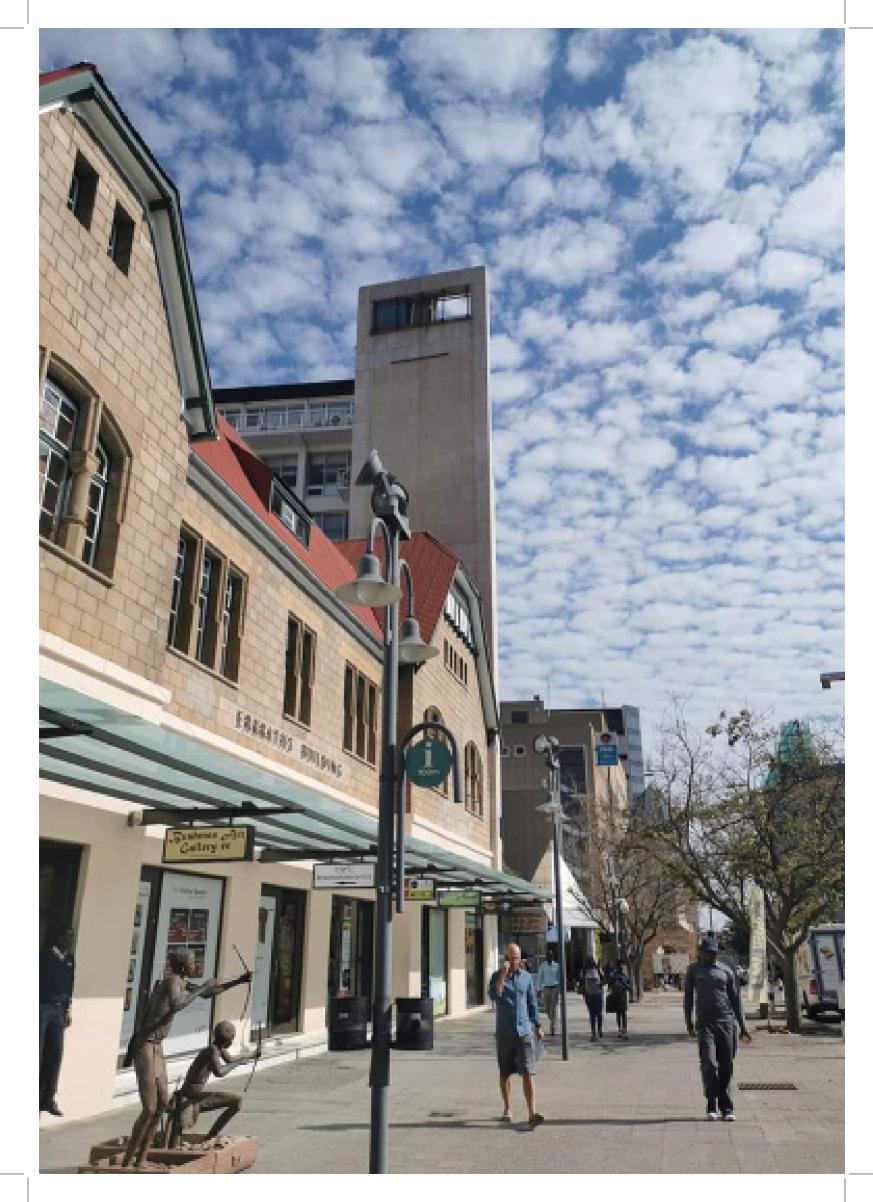
- Investment promotion
- Promotion of manufacturing activity
- Growth and diversification of the Namibia's exports and export markets
- Promotion of growth and development of SMEs

## **Legislative Mandate**

Act	Purpose
1. Companies Act, 2004 (Act No.28 of 2004).	To provide for the incorporation, management and liquidation of companies; and to provide for incidental matters.
2. Competition Act (Act No. 2 of 2003).	To promote competitive market conditions through investigation and prosecution of anti- competitive activities; reviewing and approving mergers and exemption applications; and disseminating information to businesses, consumers and other stakeholders.
3. Close Corporations Act, 1988 (Act No. 26 of 1988).	To provide for the formation, registration incorporation, management, control and liquidation of close corporations.
4. Estates Agents Act (Act no. 112 of 1976).	To regulate and control the activities of estate agents in the public interest.
5. EPZ Act (Act No. 9 of 1995).	To manage and promote the EPZ regime in Namibia's premier harbor town, Walvis Bay.
6. Export Processing Zone (EPZ) Act, 1995 (Act no. 9 of 1995 as amended).	To promote and market investment opportunities under Namibia's EPZ, monitor and coordinate all EPZ related activities and provide an umbrella facilitative service to approved investors in the country.
7. Foreign Investment Act, 1993 (Act No. 24 of 1993 as amended).	To make provision for the promotion of foreign investments in Namibia.
8. Namibia Industrial Development Agency (NIDA) Act, 2016 (Act No.16 of 2016).	To actively facilitate and drive industrial development in the country in line with the industrial policy and its "Growth at Home" implementation Strategy towards the achievement of Vision 2030 goal.
9. Standards Act, (Act No. 18 of 2005).	To promote the use of standards and quality assurance and control in industry, commerce and public sector; provide conformity assessment services; certification of systems, product and personnel systems; inspect and test products and materials; and trade (legal) metrology – enforcement of product labelling, weights and measures.
10. The Import and Export Control Act, 1994 (Act 30 of 1994).	To provide for import and export control.

## Public entities reporting to the Minister

Name of Public Entity	<b>Enabling Legislation</b>	Purpose
<b>BIPA</b> Ms. Vivienne Katjiuongua Acting Chief Executive Officer Tel: +264 61 299 440 Fax:+264 61 401 061 Email: info@bipa.na/ info@bipa.na Website: www.bipa.na	Business and Intellectual Property Authority Bill, 2013.	To be a central focal point for the registration, administration and protection of business, industrial and intellectual property.
Interim Board of Trade Board Member Ms. Patricia Liswaniso Tel: +264 61 283 7297 Fax:+264 61 238 786 Email: pliswaniso@mti.gov.na	Cabinet Decision No. 5th/ 14.03.06/008 ( Bill is being drafted)	To administer import, export activities on behalf of MTI, and serve as Namibia's national body in the future SACU tariff board.
Namibia Competition Commission (NCC) Chief Executive Officer Mr. Vitalis Ndalikokule Tel: +264 61 224622 Fax: +264 61 401900 Email: info@nacc.com.na Website: www.nacc.com.na	Competition Act (Act No. 2 of 2003).	The NCC is tasked to promote competitive market conditions through investigation and prosecution of anti-competitive activities; reviewing and approving mergers and exemption applications; and disseminating information to businesses, consumers and other stakeholders.
Namibia Estate Agents Board The Manager Mr. Festus Unengu Tel: +264 61 249885 Fax: +264 61 234709 Email: neab@iway.na Website: www.neab.iway.na	Estates Agents Act (Act no. 112 of 1976).	The purpose of NEAB is that of regulating and controlling the activities of estate agents in the public interest. In this regard, the Board is tasked with protecting consumers in estate agency transactions while having regard to the interests of the industry; maintaining and promoting the standard of conduct of the industry; and regulating the activities of the estate agents in general.
Namibia Industrial Development Agency (NIDA) Mr. Heinrich Mihe Gaomab II Chief Executive Officer Tel: +264 61 206 2111 Email: info@nida.com.na	Namibia Industrial Development Agency (NIDA) Act (Act No.16 of 2016).	To actively facilitate and drive industrial development in the country in line with the industrial policy and its "Growth at Home" implementation Strategy towards the achievement of Vision 2030 goal.
Namibia Standards Institution (NSI) The Chief Executive Officer Ms. Chie Wasserfall Namibia Standards Institution Tel: +264 61 386400 Fax: +264 61 386454 Email: info@nsi.com.na Website: www.nsi.com.na	Standards Act , (Act No. 18 of 2005)	The NSI was established to promote the use of standards and quality assurance and control in industry, commerce and public sector; provide conformity assessment services; certification of systems, product and personnel systems; inspect and test products and materials; and trade (legal) metrology – enforcement of product labelling, weights and measures.
Namibia Trade Forum Chief Executive Officer Ms. Stacey Pinto Tel: +264 61-379500 Fax: +264 61-306604 Email: info@ntf.org.na Website: www.ntf.org.na	Cabinet Decision No. 17th/ 02.08.05/007.	To act as the main consultative body representing the private sector views to the government. It thus serves as the highest public private partnership on international trade and investment matters.
Walvis Bay Export Processing Zone Management Company (Pty) Limited The Manager Mr. Jan Kruger Tel: +264 64 205 095 Fax: +264 64 206 132 E-mail: wbepzmc@iway.na Website: www.wbepzmc.iway.na	EPZ Act (Act No. 9 of 1995).	Responsible of managing and promoting the EPZ regime in Namibia's premier harbor town, Walvis Bay. In this regard, the Company provides investment facilitative services such as acquiring and servicing industrial land; construction and leasing of industrial factories; processing and facilitating applications for EPZ status, work permits and visas, and other investor needs.



# PART TWO

## Highlights of the Year 2021

### NAMIBIA CONSUMER PROTECTION POLICY AND GS1 LICENSE LAUNCH

Date: September 2021 Venue: WINDHOEK

on. Lucia lipumbu (Minister of Industrialisation and Trade) with support from the Namibia Trade Forum in partnership with the Namibia Barcode Centre launched the Namibia Consumer Protection Policy and GS1 License.

The main objective of the National Consumer Protection Policy (NCPP) is to encourage both domestic and international consumers to invest and participate in the economic growth and prosperity of Namibia.

Laws are designed to increase the transparency of consumer market transactions and thus decrease the incentives for engaging in deceptive or unfair practices. Similarly, the Minister propelled the GS1 Namibia Centre, which is recognized as a member to the GS1 Global Office that allocate barcodes to identify goods and services produced locally.

The primary functions are to administer, facilitate and allocate barcodes to locally produced goods and services as the official GS1 center in country.



Namibia Barcode - (numerals and characters) attached to products/ services for identification



Hon. Lucia Ipumbu (Minister of Industrialisation and Trade) revealing copies of launched NCPP together with Hon. Verna Sinimbo (Deputy Minister of Industrialisation)

### DEPUTY MINISTER SENDS OFF NIPDB FIRST PREPARATORY TEAM AND START-UPS TO DUBAI

Date: September 2021 Venue: WINDHOEK

on.Verna Sinimbo (Deputy Minister of Industrialisation and Trade) sent-off Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board (NIPDB)'s preparatory team and start-ups to the Expo 2020 in Dubai.

The second team was made of startup businesspersons comprising of five (5) young Namibian entrepreneurs outstanding in their area of trade namely – hospitality and tourism; red meat sector; technology and innovation; and dexterity. Expo 2020 Dubai was a lifetime celebration, the world's greatest show ever staged in the Gulf and MENA regions.

The event hosted more than 196 participating countries and more than 25 millions of visitors from across the globe. The Expo aspired to create a meaningful legacy that will benefit generations to come, both locally, regionally and globally, participants, and visitors enjoyed everything from innovations, architecture to friendships and business opportunities.



Hon. Verna Sinimbo (Deputy Minister of Industrialisation and Trade) delivering her speech at the event.

This Expo 2020 Dubai was hosted under the theme: "Connecting Minds Creating the Future, with sub-themes, Mobility, Sustainability and Opportunity". Namibia's aimed to participate at the Expo 2020 Dubai is to unlock innovations, investment, trade opportunities, and create sustainable partnership of mutual benefits across the globe.

### NAMIBIA RECOGNISES OUTSTANDING EXPORTERS

Date: August 2021 Venue: WINDHOEK

on. lipumbu officiated the Namibia Exporter Awards held virtually via teams, Microsoft platform.

The event was part of a collaboration between the U.S. government through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Southern Africa Trade, Investment Hub (USAID Trade Hub) and the Namibian Manufacturers Association (NMA). The online gathering sought to incentivize and encourage Namibian export companies to explore innovative ways of improving regional and global competitiveness.

The event Award winners were announced in the three category as follow:

- Exporter of the Year: South Africa,
- Exporter of the Year: United States
- Namibia Annual Exporter of the Year: Plastic Packaging and Meatco

Plastic Packaging and Meatco received the "Namibia Exporter of the Year" awards for their excellence and innovation in reaching export markets in South Africa and the United States respectively. Notably, Plastic Packaging also emerged as the overall Exporter of the Year.



Hon. Lucia Ipumbu (Minister of Industrialisation and Trade) pictured with some of the participants virtually.



Picture supplied by NMA

## **BUY LOCAL-GROW NAMIBIA**

#### Launch of the second phase of the "Buy local Grow Namibia" campaign

Date: May 2021 Venue: Rundu (Kavango east region)

on. lipumbu launched the second phase of the "Buy local Grow Namibia" campaign collaborated with the Namibia Trade Forum (NTF), in Rundu (Kavango east) region.

The "Buy local Grow Namibia" crusade seeks to drive and inculcate the mind of Namibians to consume locally produced goods and services.

There is need to look for solutions among ourselves, stimulating larger retailers to buy local products to enable smaller businesses to grow. At the event, H.E Dr Nangolo Mbumba - Vice President of the Republic of Namibia was among dignitaries present and delivered a keynote address. In his statement, Dr. Mbumba reverberated equivalent message, the need for the campaign to capacitate Mirco, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) as well as the informal sector to understand holistically the various requirements for local market access.



H.E Dr Nangolo Mbumba - Vice President of the Republic of Namibia seated with Hon. Lucia lipumbu – Minister of Industrialisation and Trade at the launch of the 2nd phase of 'Buy local grow Namibia'



Dignitaries at the event

#### **Buy Local Grow Namibia Capacity Building Workshop**

Date: May 2021 Venue: Rundu (Kavango east region)

on. Verna Sinimbo (Deputy Minister of Industrialisation and Trade) facilitated the buy local grow Namibia capacity building workshop at Oshakati (Oshana region).

The principal objective of the workshop targeted the promotion to create an enabling environment for local goods, access shelf space in local retailers and compel ALL Namibians to purchase locally produced goods first.

Echoing the focus of the second phase of the 'Buy Local, Grow Namibia' campaign, which is to capacitate the Mirco, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) as well as for informal sector to understand holistically the various requirements for local market access. Hence, the identification of retailer requirements is



Front row (left to right): Mr. Mark Anthony White (USAID Acting Country Representative in Namibia) and Hon. Verna Sinimbo (Deputy Minister of Industrialisation and Trade) flanked by senior officials at the event.

### Peugeot Opel Assembly Namibia Engagement

Date: August 2021 Venue: WINDHOEK

on. Lucia lipumbu officially received six cars from Mr. Robert van Rooijen – CEO of POAN (Peugeot Opel Assembly Namibia). The event represented low-hanging fruit following the official launch and unveiling of the Peugeot-Namibia plant at Walvis Bay in 2018 by His Excellency, Dr. Hage Geingob, President of the Republic of Namibia.

The investment agreement facilitated the joint-venture contract between Groupe PSA (a French multinational automotive manufacturing company) and the Namibia Development Corporation (NDC then, NOW Namibia Industrial Development Agency - NIDA, an amalgamation with the former Offshore Development Corporation - ODC) to assemble OPEL and PEUGEOT vehicles at Walvis Bay. The assembly anticipated achieving a target volume of 5000 units by last year (2020) to meet the SACU countries market demand.

Moreover, the project sought to bolster the diversification stratagem set out in our Growth at Home Strategy. Local small and medium enterprises are expected to incur benefits from this investment, enabling Namibia to realize the positive externalities and spillovers from Foreign Direct Investment (FDI).



(From left to right): Madam Nangula Geingob; Mr. Philip Namundjebo; Hon. Verna Sinimbo; Hon. Lucia lipumbu; and Mr. Heinrich Mihe Gaomab II

## REGIONAL BUSINESS CONSULTATION

Date: August 2021 Venue: KATIMA MULILO (Zambezi Region)

H on. lipumbu led discussions and exchanged ideas with the business community in the regions. The principles that guided the dialogue was to consult share on how the business people and traders can better support local manufacturing and value chain-based industrialisation to actively resuscitate the Namibian economy and business revival.

Namibia can boast a number of fundamentals that are necessary to bring and sustain economic growth largely fueled by production and exports from the extractive industries. Namibian economy suffers from the raw material endowment curse, which is typical for many colonial economies relying on exports of raw materials and remain price-takers for export commodities as well as imported finished consumer goods. The production of local masks, biomass, charcoal, timber industry and many other initiatives are among notable moves in the right direction.

The Ministry undertook several outreach in various regions: Erongo, Oshikoto, Kavango (East and West) and Zambezi regions. In all the engagements undertaken by the Ministry, role players in the value chain of the campaign made significant presentations, outlining practical ways for business people and traders to make meaningful contributions assisted by development agencies namely the Namibia Standard Institute, Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board, Namibia Trade Forum, Development Bank of Namibia and Namibian Agronomic Board.



Zambezi regional leadership together with Hon. lipumbu at the event (business consultation)

## BIPA BRANCH OFFICE INAUGURATION

Date: September 2021 Venue: Walvis Bay (Erongo region)

on. Lucia lipumbu officially inaugurated the Business and Intellectual Property Authority (BIPA) Walvis Bay Office branch. At the inauguration, the BIPA management also launched their Integrated Strategic Plan, Annual Report 2019/20. rights.

The focus of the strategic plan 2021/22 – 2025/26 centered on

financial sustainability and efficiency through three automation. BIPA was established in terms of the BIPA Act, 2016 (Act No. 8 of 2016), with the purpose to register and protect business and intellectual property Furthermore, through the effective execution of its mandate, BIPA contributes nationally to an increase in economic growth, foreign and domestic investment and improvement in the areas of employment creation.



*Hon. lipumbu cutting the ribbon with assistance from Hon. Andre Neville (Governor – Erongo region).* 

### Virtual Ministerial Staff Address

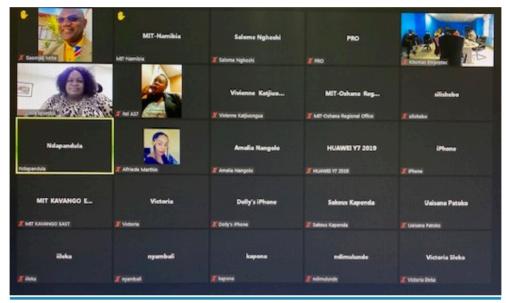
Date: February 2022 Venue: Windhoek

The Minister Staff Address 2022 meeting was held virtually this morning, highlighting that a well-developed and competitive trade and industrial sector is the source of employment, the production of goods and services that are needed in the country and for exports to other countries; a means for addressing existing social inequities; and important source and basis for wealth creation and economic growth and competitiveness.

Hon. lipumbu warmly greeted all viewers pointing out the essence to start the New Year with renewed energy, vigor and the best of wisdom and good health. Whilst acknowledging and thanking the MIT Team for the work that the Ministry has done so far, the Minister equally recognized that there is more work still required in areas such as: policy and legislation intervention; stakeholder engagements; an enabling business environment

to improve Namibia's competitiveness; market space; agencies; corporate issues; trade negotiations, sectoral master plans; and teamwork.

Setting the tone: The Minister called for teamwork, accentuated the importance of service delivery in the public service implanted in the Year of reimaging as a country and as a Ministry in particular. She called upon the Ministry staff to adhere to public service principles, in ensuring service delivery, time conscious, transparency, anticipate the clientele by integrating personal and institution values. Also crucial are the implementing arms of the Ministry - State Owned Enterprises (SOEs) to make themselves more relevant and responsive to the changing needs of Namibia and the world at large.



Online attendance – were officials including management, commercial counselors, staff members (Head Office and Regional Offices) and representatives from the agencies of the Ministry

Hon. lipumbu emphasized the following areas needing priority, these are;

- The finalisation of the Special Economic Zones Policy and subsequently the law and regulations;
- The Metrology Bill, this Bill which is aimed to provide for the regulation on the national system of units of measurements in legal and trade metrology will be tabled during the current session of Parliament after it was certified by Attorney General last year;
- Finalisation of key Sectoral Masterplans such as on the Poultry, Automotive and Mineral Beneficiation Implementation Strategy;
- The finalisation of the School Uniform design phase and immediate engagement of production phase;
- Finalisation of the commissioning and installation phase of the Invader Bush Processing Plant at Otjiwarongo, in partnership with UNIDO;

- Cement the establishment of the endowment fund for the SDG Impact Facility;
- Roll out entrepreneurial trainings under EMPRETEC NAMIBIA;
- Finalise the construction of the Start-up Hub centre at the Bokamoso Centre in Katutura, Windhoek;
- Finalisation of SME and Industrial Parks by NIDA immediately. Completion of Industrial and SME Parks under the sites and premises especially in Opuwo, Omaruru and Tsumeb is very critical;
- Fully operationalize the Integrated Client Service Facility to improve Namibia's competitiveness ranking by addressing ease of doing business; etc.

**Online attendance** – were officials including management, commercial counselors, staff members (Head Office and Regional Offices) and representatives from the agencies of the Ministry.

#### **ANNUAL INVESTMENT MEETING 2022**

Date: March 2022 Venue: Dubai (UAE)

**H** on. Lucia lipumbu (Minister of Industrialisation and Trade) participated at the recent Annual Investment Meeting (AIM) at the concluding Expo 2020 in Dubai (United Arab Emirates). The AIM pedestal served to share best practices on the means of promoting economic development in Africa through entrepreneurship and innovation. Additionally, on an elevated gantry, a panel of experts addressed the challenges faced by African entrepreneurs/investors in developing joint investments and business partnerships with counterparts from the Arab Region. The side event further aimed to develop a collaborative action plan towards ensuring resilient African entrepreneurs and promoting domestic investment for leveraging foreign direct investment, in the backdrop of the 4th digital revolution through creating and unleashing entrepreneurship and MSME growth. Hon. lipumbu participated in more panel discussions on pillars relevant to Industrialisation and Trade.



Hon. Iipumbu and fellow panel members at the Annual Investment Meeting (Dubai, UAE)

#### NAMIBIA INVESTMENT SUMMIT IN DUBAI

Date: March 2022 Venue: Dubai (UAE)

on. Lucia lipumbu (Minister of Industrialisation and Trade) delivered a statement on the trending theme regarding investment in Namibia. She made her notable remarks during the ongoing summit at the Grand Hyatt Hotel Convention Centre Dubai (United Arab Emirates) in the presence of His Excellency, the Head of State – Dr. Hage Geingob.

Hon. lipumbu openly orated on the investment policy and legislative frameworks to boost Namibia's competitiveness and ease of doing business. Condensing the wide subject, Madam lipumbu recited that the Namibia Investment Promotion and Facilitation Act (NIPFA) seeks to promote sustainable economic development and growth through the mobilization and attraction of foreign and Namibian investment to enhance economic development, reduce unemployment, accelerate growth and diversify the economy post Covid -19.

In addition, to explore smart economic incentives to lure investment, continental & global trade arrangements and foster value chains through Special Economic Zones. Conclusively, to promote economic development by monitoring the implementation of industrial activities to enhance domestic productive capacities and diversification. In attendance at this high profile event include His Excellency Dr. Hage G. Geingob (President of the Republic of Namibia); Madam Monica Geingos (First Lady of the Republic of Namibia); Hon. Calle Schlettwein (Minister of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform); Hon. Ipumbu Shiimi (Minister of Finance); Hon. Kornelia Shilunga (Deputy Minister of Mines and Energy); Ms. Nangula Uaandja (NIPDB Chief Executive Officer and Commissioner General of the Namibian Pavilion at EXPO 2020 Dubai); distinguished invited guests; officials from the Republic of Namibia; and members of the media.



Hon. lipumbu delivering her statement at the event

#### Second NIPDB preparatory team and start-ups off to Dubai

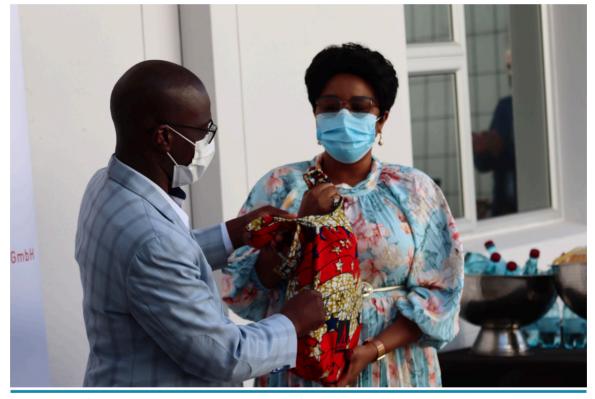
Date: September 2021 Venue: Windhoek

on. Verna Sinimbo – Deputy Minister of Industrialisation and Trade sent-off a second team to the Expo 2020 in Dubai. The second team was made of startup businesspersons comprising of five (5) young Namibian entrepreneurs outstanding in their area of trade namely – hospitality and tourism; red meat sector; technology and innovation; and dexterity.

Hon. Sinimbo congratulated the startups and commissioned them to be Ambassadors in marketing Namibia to the world, evangelize of the democracy, political and economic stability, nationhood and national pride of the land of the Brave.

She further compelled the micro enterprises to take advantage of the golden-opportunity to expand their businesses, improve innovation and tap into the global competitive market. Being at infancy stages of operation, it is crucial for startups to utilize such a great prospect in fulfilling economic opportunities a hand. Lastly, Hon. Sinimbo thanked the developmental partners - Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board (NIPDB) for ensuring participation of local business community at the world's greatest show ever staged in the Gulf and MENA regions.

Hon. Sinimbo officiated the event at a lesser gathering organized by the Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board, BRB Building in the capital. In attendance at the occasion were – Madam Tanya Daringo (the Director of proceeding); Madam Margareth Gustavo (Executive: Strategy and Branding at NIPDB); Mr. Richwell Lukonga (Chief Operations Officer at NIPDB); Madam Anna Vambe (Project Manager for GIZ); selected Namibian Startups sponsored to participate at the Expo 2020 Dubai; and members of the media.



From left to right: Mr. Richwell Lukonga (Chief Operations Officer at NIPDB) handing over a gift to Hon.Verna Sinimbo (Deputy Minister of Industrialisation and Trade)

#### NAMIBIAN CHARCOAL SENT-OFF TO USA

Date: September 2021 Venue: Windhoek

on. Verna Sinimbo (Deputy Minister of Industrialisation and Trade) together with H.E Lisa Johnson (Former Ambassador of the U.S.A to Namibia) witnessed the first send-off of 350 tonnes of Namibian charcoal to the United State of America. Pioneering the relationship between Namibia and the United States of America, Deputy Minister highlighted the hope for Namibia to maximize African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA)'s trade potential in trade, investments and skills transfer through market access, strengthening technical assistance and capacity building initiatives.



(Left): Hon. Verna Sinimbo - Deputy Minister of Industrialisation and Trade together with H.E Lisa Johnson - Former Ambassador of the U.S.A to Namibia

n terms of market development and market adaptation for Namibian products - Namibian beef was granted eligibility status for the USA market under AGOA dispensation. The soughtafter beef entered the US markets after 18 years of extensive negotiations between the two countries. The Ministry has been promoting a charcoal Sector Growth project to contribute to the inclusive and sustainable industrial development of Namibia. This has been achieved through harvesting raw products processed in semi-processed products and charcoal is one of the product (s) for the project.

#### NAMIBIA PROMOTIONAL DAY IN DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA

Date: July 2021 Venue: Mission Dar Es Salaam (Tanzania)

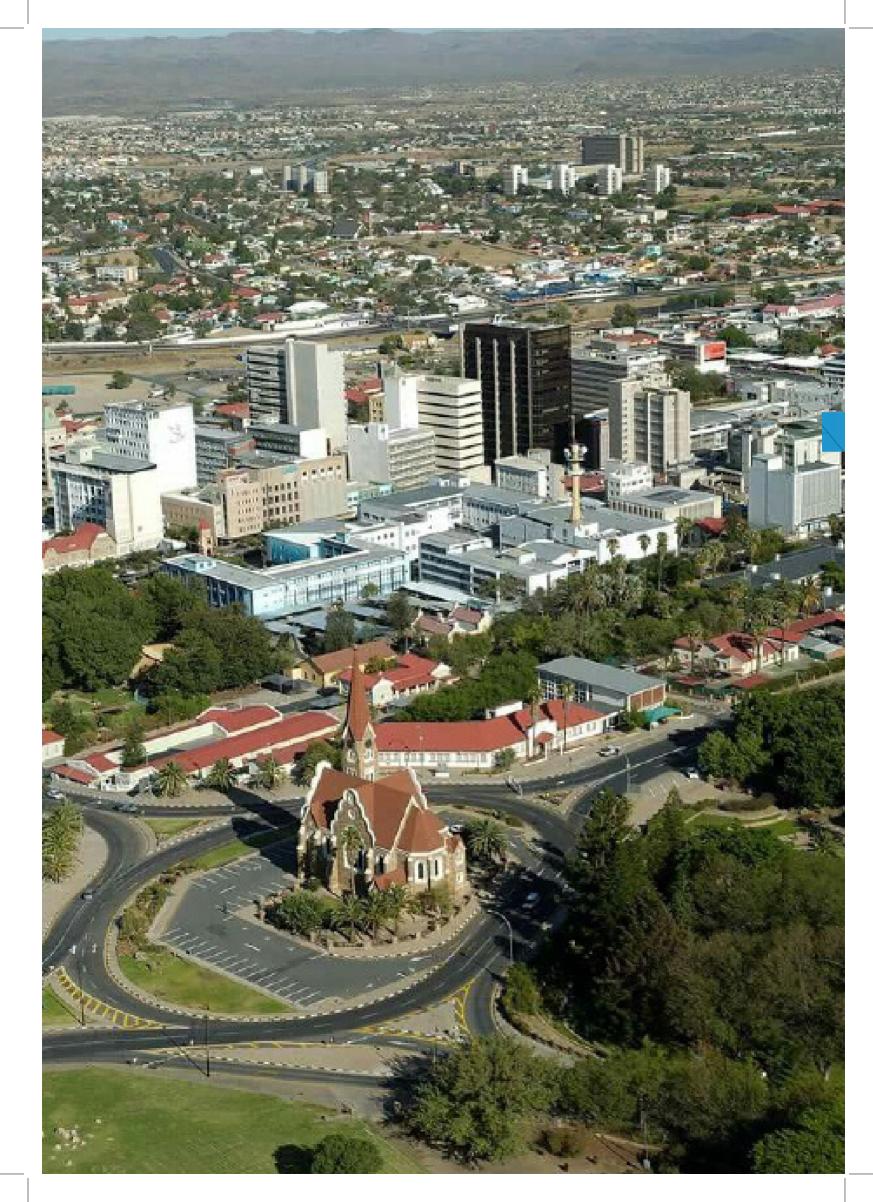
At the invitation of H.E. Mr. Lebbius Tangeni Tobias – High Commissioner of the Republic of Namibia to Tanzania, Mission Dar Es Salaam held a Namibia Promotion day on 30 July 2021 at the Chancery. Various business personalities and other stakeholders attended the event. The purpose of the occasion was to market Namibia and what she can offer in terms of business opportunities.

As part of the request of the Head of Mission, the Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade availed promotional materials to the Mission for this specific event as well as an official in the person of Mr. Nickey Sindano Itula (Promotional Officer – Market research and Product Development), who played a pivotal role in the explanation and presentation of the products. During the event, Mr. Itula made a compelling presentation prompting excitement in the audience to invite comments and questions.

With assistance from the Head of Mission - H.E. Tobias, who brought the weight of eloquence, logic and thorough knowledge in interpretation provided satisfying responses to the audience. The Namibia promotion day was a great success in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania.



(Centre): H.E. Mr. Lebbius Tangeni Tobias – High Commissioner of the Republic of Namibia to Tanzania together with participants at the promotion day



# **PART THREE**

## **Programme Performance**

Voted Funds (Table 3)

Main Appropriation N\$'000	Adjusted Appropriation N\$'000	Actual Amount Spent N\$'000	Not Spent N\$'000
159,785,000	200,450,000	199,389,910.18	1 060 089.28
Responsible Minister:	Minister of Industrialisation a	nd Trade	
Administering Department	Ministry of Industrialisation a	nd Trade	
Accounting Officer:	Executive Director of Industri	alisation and Trade	

#### Aim of Vote

Ministry of Industrialisation, Trade and SME Development is charged with the responsibility to develop and manage Namibia's economic regulatory framework, promote economic growth and development through the formulation and

## **PERFORMANCE PER PROGRAMME**

#### INDUSTRIAL AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

The programme is intended to promote manufacturing and entrepreneurship development. The programme overall objective is to achieve equitable and sustainable industrial planning, employment creation and the development of a robust competitive industrial sector.

(a) Industrial Planning and Development

This activity involves the development of policies and strategies on industrial development, whose objective is to boost supplyside capacities of local industries and ensure an increased contribution of the productive sector to the country's GDP.

#### (b) Small Business Development

This activity involves the development of policies and strategies to support entrepreneurs and enterprises in the areas of research and development, product development and business development, as well as the acquisition of specialized skills through short-term training in order to strengthen the implementation of both industrial and Micro and Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) policy and the Growth at Home strategy for the country.

Achievements during the period under review:

- The Ministry's intervention in the industry was mainly achieved through the support of Official Development flow Assistance (ODA) due to budget constraints.
- 454,894 masks were produced by 57 Namibian entities for pensioners, vulnerable people and disabled children, as well as hospital patients. This intervention created economic opportunity for MSMEs in the tailoring and sewing sector across the 14 regions in the country to a total value of N\$ 9 million.
  - 45 Namibian entities were supported under the Industrial Upgrading and Modernisation Program (IUMP) through a donor funding of EU/SADC Trade Related Facility at a cost of about N\$13 million from all 14 regions.

implementation of appropriate policies to attract investment, increase trade, develop and expand the country's industrial base and enable equitable participation in the domestic and international markets

- The Ministerial regional offices facilitated the implementation of Gemstone cutting and polishing training program in which 25 Participants from across the country were selected for the training at Karibib Gemstone Training Centre, Erongo Region.
- The Ministry through the German Government Financial Assistance introduced various initiatives to support entrepreneurs hard hit by the pandemic to an amount of N\$8,9 million. This mainly includes financial support in the form of Covid-19 grants to MSMEs that lost income during the Covid-19 lockdown. A total of 200 entrepreneurs have benefited from the grant during the 1st Stage of the State of Emergency. During the second intervention that is Covid-19 survival, a total of 396 entrepreneurs benefited from the grant.
- The Mineral Beneficiation Strategy was finalized between Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade and the Ministry of Mines and Energy in order to create a platform for MIT to develop a mineral value addition policy framework by the year 2023.
- Private Sector Development Survey was conducted across more than 300 enterprises countrywide in order to assess business conditions and market dynamics in the country. This helps in policymaking and will support the development of the National Policy on Informal Economy and Entrepreneurship.
- There was a decrease between 2019 and 2020, in the contribution of manufacturing output and value added activities to GDP from USD1.56 billion to USD1.18 billion and 12.39% and 10.99% respectively.
- Due to the budget constraints, the Ministry was only able to complete one industrial park at Opuwo, however Tsumeb, Nkurenkure and Omaruru are at advanced stage of construction and envisaged to be completed by end of July 2022.
- The Ministry has trained 40 MSME in the Charcoal sector from across the country and 60 will be trained in the year 2022 across the whole value chain of BioMass from harvesting, processing, logistic, packaging and marketing.

- The value of Charcoal exported to South Africa, EU and some Asian countries reached N\$824 million in 2020.
- The Sustainable Development Goals Impact Facility (SDGIF) is a grant and loan intervention between Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade (MIT), United Nation Development Program (UNDP), Environmental Investment

#### **TRADE PROMOTION AND COMMERCE**

This programme is intended to make Namibia competitive in terms of business establishment and expansion, protection of business and intellectual property, quality and standards, export of goods and services, and fair market competition. This entails the implementation, management and maintenance of compliance to domestic and international instruments and measures concerned with commerce, domestic market regulation, international trade and trade facilitation.

#### (a) Trade Promotions

This Programme is intended to ensure effective and efficient business establishment and economic growth in the country. It entails the implementation and management of trade frameworks concerning trade and commerce, domestic market regulation, and international trade facilitation. Domestic Trade Management This activity aims for the development and adoption of appropriate legal regulatory and institutional frameworks for effective business registration, establishment and operation of businesses, protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights, consumer protection, standards, weight and measures, conformity to business assessment, competition, franchise and e-commerce.

#### Achievements during the period under review:

- Law and implementation of international trade agreements; provide for investigative searches and inspections; and to provide for incidental matters.
- The Ministry launched the "Buy Local Grow Namibia" campaign in order to encourage consumers to buy local manufactured goods.
- E-Trade Services (NETS) was endorsed by Cabinet to operate the National Single Window (NSW) environment in Namibia through NAMPORT. The NSW was intended to reduce time and cost of trading across the borders, hence improving competitiveness.
- Namibia's Barcode application was approved by the General Standards GS1 (International Organization that provides barcodes) Brussels on 5th March 2021.
- Regional stakeholders' consultations on the trade policies (Trade in Goods and Trade in Services) were conducted in all regions.
- Launching of the Revised National Quality Policy 2020-2025 in April 2021.
- Launching of the National Consumer Protection Policy 2020-2025 September 2021.
- Launching of the barcode Centre in September 2021.
- Completion of stakeholder consultations on the Copyright Bill.
- Completion of stakeholder consultations on the Property Practitioners Bill.
- Withdrawing from the Madrid Protocol.
- Tabling of the TRIPS Amendment Protocol in Parliament.
- The National Competition Policy was launched in December

Fund (EIF) and Standard Bank of Namibia to a total value of N\$ 2.5 million which supported 32 beneficiaries in the sector of Agro-Processing, Cosmetics and Artisan in the 1st window; and a total value of N\$3 million supported another 30 beneficiaries in the Tourism and Hospitality and Manufacturing

#### (b) Domestic Trade Management Activities

The Activity focuses on the development and adoption of an appropriate legal, regulatory and institutional framework for effective registration, establishment and operation of businesses; the registration, protection and enforcement of intellectual property, standards, conformity assessment and franchises; as well as promotion and safeguarding of consumer welfare and market competition, as important conditions for a vibrant and robust domestic economy.

#### (c) External Trade Management

This activity aims to increase market preferential access of Namibia products (goods and services) globally and regionally that are exported in order to reduce dependency on imports. The Ministry developed the International Trade Management Bill, which once concluded, among others, will establish the Namibian Trade Management Commission. The Commission will provide for application, enactment into domestic and international trade

2020. The Competition Policy can be broadly defined as a Governmental policy that promotes or maintains the level of competition in markets, and includes governmental measures that directly affect the behaviour of enterprises and the structure of industry and markets as well as safeguarding public interest.

- The Amendment of regulations under Close Corporations Act: Close Corporations Act, 1988 by virtue of Government Notice No. 27 of 18 February 2021 was gazetted.
- Namibia signed the financing agreement for the EPA implementation plan with the EU. Namibia developed Terms of Reference for the project coordinator (twinning fitche) for capacity building programme from the EU.
- BIPA commenced with the business information data cleansing project and Industrial Property Rights capturing and validation project under the Model IP Office Project with the support of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).
- Establishment of the National Laboratory Association of Namibia.
- Launching of the Revised National Quality Policy 2020-2025 in April 2021 (the two committees to spearhead the implementation of the National Quality Policy (NQP) are: Core Group, its membership consist of senior government officials from O/M/As with technical regulations and its Chaired by MIT ED; and technical committee: consists of technical officials to support the Core Group with the actual administration and implementation of the NQP).

#### **INVESTMENT PROMOTION**

The main purpose of this programme is to create an enabling environment for investment through appropriate legal and regulatory framework, investment research and incentives management, marketing strategy and after-care programme.

#### Achievements during the period under review:

• Final review of the Attorney-General Office certified the Namibia Investment Promotion Bill (NIPA).

#### SUPERVISION AND SUPPORT SERVICES

#### **Policies Supervision Activity**

Thisprogrammeisintended to ensure an enabling environment and a high performance culture. Policies Supervision This activity provides for appropriate policy guidelines of various programs and activities to ensure coordination and alignment to Ministerial Strategic Goals and National Development Goals (NDPs).

Coordination and Support Services This Activity deals with the provision of administrative or supportive services that the various operational unit and agency of the Ministry require in

- Implementation of Integrated Client Service Facility (ICSF) phase 2 was completed.
- The Ministry established the office to handle the World Dubai Expo 2020 preparatory works that was duly finalized (Pavilion acquisition and stakeholder buy-in, registering of participatory businesses and purchase of local products for exhibition) and handed over the function to the Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board.

order to execute their assigned core functions and achieve the strategic objectives as set in its Strategic Plan.

#### Achievements during the period under review:

- The budget execution rate for the period under review was 96%.
- The Ministry maintained the unqualified audit opinion for the period under review.

The table 4 below indicates the budget allocations and utilization: N\$'000

	Budget	Expenditure	Utilization %
Operational Budget	155,356,000	154,295,910.18	99.3
Development Budget	45,094,000	45,094,000	100
Total	200,45,000	199,389,910	99.5

#### SPECIAL INDUSTRIALISATION INITIATIVE

Programme objective

The programme is intended to increasing the contribution of productive sector to GDP and accelerates economic growth and activity by focusing on enhancing growth in priority sectors.

#### Achievements during the period under review:

- The Biomass industrial park at Otjiwarongo has been completed.
- Project agreement between MIT and GIPF backed private equity firm to establish the beef cold storage facility at Walvis-Bay is completed.



H.E President Dr. Hage Geingob engaging trade and investment stakeholders at State House (file photo)

### ADDRESS LIST MINISTRY AND FOREIGN ECONOMIC OFFICES

#### Contact details for the Ministry of Industrialisation, Trade and SME Development

#### **OFFICE OF THE MINISTER**

Hon. Lucia lipumbu, MP Minister Tel: +264 61 2837334 Fax: +264 61 220148 Email: Lucia.lipumbu@mit.gov.na

#### OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Sikongo Haihambo Executive Director Tel: +264 61 283 7332 Fax: +264 61 220 278 Email: Sikongo.Haihambo@mit.gov.na

#### **DEPARTMENT: NAMIBIA INVESTMENT CENTRE**

Ms. Mbolioshili (Dolly) Kandume Director Tel: +264 61 283 7254 Fax: +264 61 220278 Dolly.Amoomo@mti.gov.na

#### INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

Dr. Michael Humavindu Dep. Executive Director Tel: +264 61 2837258 Fax: +264 61 230019 Email: Michael.Humavindu@mti.gov.na

#### DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

Ms. Ndiita Nghipondoka Robiati Dep. Executive Director Tel: +264 61 283 7331 Fax: +264 61 222 576 Email: Ndiitah.Robiati@mti.gov.na

#### INTERNATIONAL TRADE DIRECTORATE

Ms. Patricia Liswaniso Director Tel: +264 61 283 7297 Fax: +264 61 253 865 Email: Patricia.Liswaniso@mti.gov.na

Ms. Diana Tjiposa Deputy Director Trade Policy Tel: +264 283 7328 Fax: +264 61 253 865 Email: Diana.Tjiposa@Mti.gov.na

#### **COMMERCE DIRECTORATE**

Ms. Dina Nashidengo Director Tel: +264 61 283 7305 Fax: +264 61 259 676 Diina.Nashidengo@mti.gov.na Hon. Verna Sinimbo, Deputy Minister Tel: +264 61 2837329 Fax: +264 61 253866 Email:Verna.Sinimbo@mit.gov.na

Ms. Angela Dau-Pretorius Deputy Director Investor Services Tel: +264 61 283 7312 Fax: +264 61 220278 Angela.Pretorius@mit.gov.na

Ms. lona Nkandi - Asino Acting Director Tel: +264 61 283 7328 Fax: +264 61 259 676 Email: Ilona.Nkandi@mti.gov.na

Ms. Diana Tjiposa Deputy Director Trade Policy Tel: +264 283 7328 Email: Diana.Tjiposa@Mti.gov.na

Mr. Asser Nashikaku Deputy Director Trade Agreements Tel: +264 61 283 7288 Fax: +264 61 253865 E-mail: Asser.Nashikaku@mit.gov.na

Pinehas Shinyala Deputy Director Regional Economic Development Tel: +264 61 283 7328 Fax: +264 61 259 676 Email: Pinehas.Shinyala@Mit.gov.na

Mr. Sakeus Kapenda Deputy Director Trade Promotion Tel: +264 61 283 7373 Fax: +264 61 253 865 E-mail: Sakeus.Kapenda@mit.gov.na

Mr. Salom Haidula Deputy Director Consumer Protection Tel: +264 61 283 7239 Fax: +264 61 222576 Salom.Haidula@mit.gov.na Mr. Josef Shikongo Deputy Director Weights, Measures and Standards, Trade and Commerce Tel: +264 283 7262 Fax: +264 61 253865 Josef.Shikongo@mit.gov.na

#### FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION DIRECTORATE

Mr. Peyapenda Nghaamwa Director Tel: +264 61 2837367 Fax: +264 61 238607 E-mail: Peyependa.Nghaamwa@Mit.gov.na Ms. Meriam Silishebo Deputy Director Tel: +264 61 283 7202 Fax: +264 61 238607 E-mail: Meriam.Silishebo@Mit.gov.na Ms. Selma Shivute Deputy Director – Information Technology Tel: +264 283 7519 Fax: +264 220 148 Email: Selma.Shivute@mit.gov.na Website: www.mit.gov.na

#### LIST OF REGIONAL OFFICES

Region	Staff & Position	Contact Details	Email address
ERONGO / SWAKOPMUND	Mr. A. Christiaan - Chief Economist	064-418000 (T) 064-418001 (F)	Albert.Christiaans@mit.gov.na
HARDAP / MARIENTAL	Mr. T. Ileka - Economist	063 - 240321 (T) 063 - 240319 (F)	Tobias.lileka@Mit.gov.na
//KARAS / KEETMANSHOOP	Mr. J. P. Kisting - Economist	063-222480 (T) 063-224795 (F)	Johannes.Kisting@Mit.gov.na
KAVANGO / RUNDU	Ms. E. Uusiku - Chief Economist	066-255916 (T) 066-255351 (F)	Elise.Uusiku@mit.gov.na
KUNENE / OPUWO	Mr. J. Hamukoto - Economist	065-273190 (T) 065 - 273384 (F)	Julius.Hamukoto@Mit.gov.na
HANGWENA / EENHANA	Mr A. Kashihakumwa - Economist	065-263037(T) 065-263051 (F)	Abel.Kashihakumwa@Mit.gov.na
HANGWENA / EENHANA	Mr A. Kashihakumwa - Economist	065-263037(T) 065-263051 (F)	Abel.Kashihakumwa@Mit.gov.na
OMAHEKE – GOBABIS	Mr. Kahipura - Economist	062-564692 (T) 062-565747F	Manfred.Kahipura@mit.gov.na
OMUSATI / OUTAPI	Ms. K. Nghishidimbwa - Economist	065-251087(T) 065-251097 (F)	Kristofina.Nghishidimbwa@Mit. gov.na
OSHANA / ONGWEDIVA	Mr. S. Ntinda – Chief Economist	065-230663 (T) 065-231449 (F)	ntinda@mti.gov.na
OSHIKOTO / OMUTHIYA	Ms. E. Muhongo – Chief Economist	065-293100 (T) 065-293111 (F)	Elisia.Muhongo@mit.gov.na
OTJOZONDJUPA/ OTJIWARONGO	Ms. W. Naukushu – Development Planner	067- 303994 (T) 067 - 304091 (F)	Wilma.Naukushu@Mit.gov.na
ZAMBEZI/ KATIMA MULILO	Mr G.M. Kasika - Economist	066-253240 (T) 066-252140 (F)	Gift.Kasika@Mit.gov.na

#### LIST OF EXTERNAL TRADE/ COMMERCIAL OFFICES

City	Commercial Counselors	Telephone Contacts	Fax	Email Contact
Beijing	Mr. Freedie U !Gaoseb	+861065322211	+861065324549	beijing@mirco.gov.na
Berlin	Ms. Lucia Radovanovic	+493026390012	+493025409555	commerce@namibia-botschaft.de
Brasilia	Mr. Simeon Shilongo	+556132486274	+556132487135	brasilia@mirco.gov.na
Brussels		+32 2 770 31 44	+32 2 77196 89	trade@namibiaembassy.be
Dubai	Kleopas Sirongo			sirongo@bluewin.ch
Geneva	Mr. Lynnox Mwiya	+41227866282	+41797781150	lmwiya@namibiatradeoffice.ch info@namibiatradeoffice.ch
London	Ms. M. Kaapanda	+442076366244	+442076375694	London@mirco.gov.na
Luanda	Ms. j. Mungunda	+244222320441	+244912435410	Luanda@mirco.gov.na
Ethiopia	Mr. Petrus Haufiku	+251 -11-6611966	+251 116612677	Nam.emb@ethionet.et
Washington	Ms Petrina Nakale	+12029862007	+12023783874	Washington@mirco.gov.na

## MINISTER'S STATEMENT AT ANNUAL INVESTMENT MEETING (AIM) 2022



#### INTERVENTIONS BY HON. LUCIA IIPUMBU MINISTER OF INDUSTRIALISATION AND TRADE ON THE OCCASION OF THE ANNUAL INVESTMENT MEETING (AIM) WEDNESDAY, 30 MARCH 2022 DUBAI EXHIBITION CENTRE, SOUTH HALL, EXPO 2020 DUBAI, UAE

The panel will serve as a platform to share best practices on the means of promoting economic development in Africa through entrepreneurship and innovation; it will also serve to address the challenges faced by African entrepreneurs/investors in developing joint investments and business partnerships with counterparts from the Arab Region in specific and the world in general. The side event aims to develop a collaborative action plan towards ensuring resilient African entrepreneurs; promoting domestic investment for leveraging foreign direct investment, in the backdrop of the 4th digital revolution, through creating and unleashing entrepreneurship and MSME growth.

#### Question(s):

#### 1

What concrete measures need to be put in place to facilitate joint investments and business partnerships between Africa, the Arab Region and the world in general? How could SMEs benefit from those measures? Is there any example in Namibia that could illustrate your comments? Thank you very much moderator for the opportunity and greetings to my fellow panel members and the audience both here and those following virtually. Indeed, various measures can be undertaken to facilitate joint investment partnerships as alluded to:

- a. There is a need for establishment of the investment facilitation framework between Africa and the rest of the world to encourage targeted investments in areas such as innovation, value chains development, value addition to unlock opportunities especially for SMEs.
- b. International Expositions such EXPO 2020 Dubai and other Investment Forums to allow for engagements between African & Arab Private Sectors and governments, Regional Economic Communities, chambers of commerce, current and potential, international organizations and multilateral agencies, investment promotion agencies, leading international and local media, and Business Councils to exploring business opportunities, challenges to attracting greater investment and overcoming barriers to investment between the African and Arab region.
- c. These forums must also deliberate on modalities to forge

sustainable partnerships to enhance trade and investment relations between the two sides, to the mutual benefit of both. To support the Africa's development priorities such as development of infrastructure, adding value to raw materials, regional integration, capacity building and human resources development.

- d. Namibia convenes Annual National Expositions and trade fairs across the country aimed at creating opportunities between our indigenous market entrepreneurs with foreign businesses. This further create opportunities to expose products and services of MSMEs and establish smart partnerships with established entities.
- e. One good example is that Namibia has several Binational Forums to promote bilateral and regional value chains development and investments. I suggest that the Africa-Arab Economic Forum, which has witnessed its second iteration in 2021, be expanded with regional fraternities so that we can have for example a SACU/SADC Arab Economic Forum. Such an approach will provide for a platform that will delve deeper into actual investment opportunities for collaboration and cooperation. Whilst the Continental Economic Forum will prioritize policy collaborations and partnership, the regional engagements should focus much more on actual realisation of investment opportunities or strengthening existing ones such as Namibia's export of dates to these shores.
- f. In terms of MSME development, it has become an imperative that any economic partnership should have a special focus on ensuring requisite clauses that can mainstream opportunities for small business. Thus, any Continental Economic Forum or my proposed regional forums should carry explicit clauses in their founding statements that pivot procurement, skills development, technological exchange and transfer opportunities to MSMEs. The immersion of MSME chamber of commerce in such regional forums is also key as their voice tends to be stifled if we do not guard against their exclusion-as we all know national chambers at times tends to be dominated by larger entities. Thus, a specific focus should be on ensuring MSMEs inclusion through their associations. To this matter,

24

I must also add that founding statements must also reflect not only on MSMEs but also on special focus on women and youth and the Informal Economy. Both Africa and the Arab world has what they call the Youth Bulge' an increasing number of young people making up the overall population. It is therefore an imperative that attention and facilitation of entrepreneurial opportunities are provided to these segments of our societies.

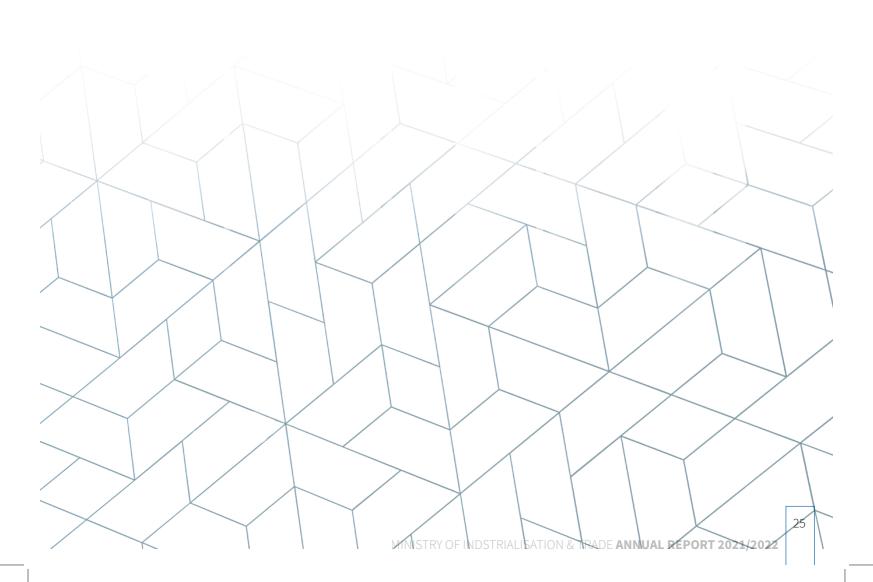
Finally, the economic advancement pillar of our Harambee g. Prosperity Plan II (HPP2), our flagship national policy document has prioritized partnership with the private sector to create an MSME Fund with four components namely interventions includes the Credit Guarantee Scheme, the Mentoring and Coaching Programme, Skills Based Lending Facility and the Venture Capital Fund consolidated with a diversified source of funding. Government has engaged relevant partners with a record of accomplishment of sourcing funding from the private financial sector as a viable means to meet the empowerment legislation provisions related to enterprise and supplier development for the financial sector. The implementation strategy will be championed by the Namibian Investment Promotion and Development Board and supported by the Development Bank of Namibia. Namibia's Growth at Home Strategy also plays a crucial in accelerating industrialisation and economic growth.

#### 2.

Could the AfCFTA (African Continental Free Trade Area) be an opportunity? How? Indeed the African Continental Free Trade Areas presents a major opportunity to business given its vast market size of about 1.3 billion people and combined GDP of 3.4 trillion USD. In fact, the AfCFTA is the largest FTA established since the inception of the WTO. The Phase negotiations of the AfCFTA agreement are ongoing and investment facilitation will form part of the agreement, it therefore important to ensure that it caters for the facilitation of joint investments and business partnerships between Africa, the Arab Region and the rest of the world. The African Ministers responsible for Trade in January this Year, Afrixim bank and the AfCFTA Secretariat launched the PAN African Payment and Settlement System (PAPSS) in Accra Ghana aimed at to enable payment for intra Africa trade in National currencies thereby reducing the foreign currencies transfer costs and further time for cross border payments. Therefore, PAPSS is envisaged to boost intra Africa trade significantly.

#### 3.

Concluding Remarks Thank AIM for organizing this platform and advice to design other outreach programmes given the significant role they play in investment promotion and facilitation globally.



## MIT IN PICTURES





























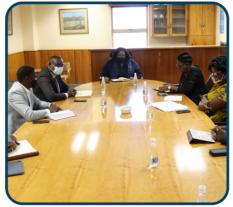




















27

## Conclusion

The editorial team of this publication of the Annual Report would like to thank the Honorable Minister and Deputy Minister for their strong leadership during the year under review. They, together with other seniors in management and by extension MIT staff members, should be credited for accelerating the implementation of programmes and projects envisioned by our Ministry. Their collective leadership made it possible for the Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade to reach out to local businesses in the private and public sectors in an aggressive drive towards economic growth, the creation of jobs and a more equitable distribution of wealth. Their outreach initiatives went beyond Namibia's borders in efforts to be part of regional, continental and global economic integration arrangements. In conclusion, the year 2021/22 financial year will see a gradual drive to enhance the industrial sector and make way for an "expeditious transformation".

## NOTES


1 1

### NOTES


## **Physical Address:**

Brenda Simbwaye Square, Block B Cnr. Dr. Kenneth Kaunda & Goether Streets Private Bag 13340 Windhoek