

MIT NEWS

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 3



Editor's Note

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Corporate Communications

We appreciate the commitment of our Minister, Deputy Minister, Management and entire staff in continuing to improve the quality of the mandate assigned to the Ministry.

The Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade is a pioneer for economic growth of the country. That's why the Ministry contrive the formulation and implementation of appropriate policies to attract investment, increase trade and grow industrialisation implanted in the "Growth at Home" strategy. Recently, Namibia was ranked as the 10th most industrialised country on the continent (African Development Bank raking index).

This edition of the newssheet reflects on the manner in which the Ministry fulfilled its obligation with other relevant stakeholders and highlights remarkable undertakings during the ending quarter. Enjoy the read...

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Hon. Iipumbu earn International Award



2nd from left: Hon. Lucia Iipumbu (Minister of Industrialisation and Trade) receives the prestigious Woman of the Year 2022 award at the occurrence.

Hon. Lucia Iipumbu (Minister of Industrialisation and Trade) attended the Africa Women in Trade Conference from 28 to 29 September 2022 at Rockview Hotel in Abuja (Nigeria). The second series of the African Women in Trade Conference invited Hon. Iipumbu as a special guest speaker at the event. At the same occasion, Hon. Iipumbu was awarded the prestigious Woman of the Year 2022 award by the Organization of Women in International Trade (OWIT). The award took place in the framework of an official ceremony, recognizing Honorable Minister as an exceptional woman who is dynamic, trailblazing and for advancing the status of women in international trade and business through excellence and innovation. Nigeria's Trade and Investment Support Organisation (TISO) operates within its strategic engagement plan which includes components such as improving knowledge and skill base of women in trade laws, policies, rules and procedures, creating multiple-stakeholder platforms where private sector actors, public sector administrators and policymakers can work together towards the effective implementation of trade facilitation measures for women. We take pride in congratulating Hon. Lucia Iipumbu (Minister of Industrialisation and Trade) for being conferred the prestigious award.

Hon. Sinimbo at Tsumeb Copper Festival



Seated front row, 1st from right: Hon. Verna Sinimbo (Deputy Minister of industrialisation and Trade) pictured with participants at the Tsumeb Copper Gala Dinner

Hon. Verna Sinimbo (Deputy Minister of Industrialisation and Trade) was a guest speaker at the Tsumeb Copper Festival Gala Dinner at Kupferquelle resort in the town of Tsumeb (Oshikoto region). The Copper Festival 2022 was celebrated under the theme tune “Wiring Namibia towards Innovation”, got a thumbs-up gesture as a sign of approval and satisfaction from the Deputy Minister. In her keynote address, Hon. Sinimbo applauded the organizing committee and appreciated the focus on technology linked to the Fourth Industrial Revolution, which is expected to help accelerate social economic development for all in the country. At the periphery of the gala dinner, the town of Tsumeb was hosting the annual Copper Festival event, providing businesses with an opportunity to display their products and services that are vital in assisting the municipality in its efforts to diversify the local economy. Namibia aims to become “a prosperous and industrialized Nation, developed by her human resources, enjoying peace, harmony and political stability” – Hon. Vern Sinimbo.

Minister Inaugurate NSI HQ



Hon. lipumbu delivering her keynote address at the event.

The Minister of Industrialisation and Trade (MIT), Hon. Lucia lipumbu officially inaugurated the Namibian Standards Institution (NSI) Head Office in the capital on 12 September 2022. The NSI is an agency of the Ministry, established in terms of the Standards Act, (Act No. 18 of 2005) - the institution is tasked 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. In her keynote address, Hon. lipumbu emphasized the need to ensure adequate infrastructure to enable the institution to deliver on its mandate and display growth in asset base. At the same event, Hon. lipumbu fondly bade farewell to the outgoing Namibian Standards Council members and ardently welcomed the incoming members of the Council – implored them to serve to the best of their ability. 'I have no doubt, that the new building will improve the operational and administrative capacities of the NSI to the satisfaction of the NSI stakeholders, the business community and the Namibian people at large' – Hon. lipumbu.



Some of the participants at the event

MIT Commemorate World Ozone Day



Hon. Lipumbu delivering her keynote address at the event.

Annually, 16 September is celebrated as the International Day for Preservation of the Ozone Layer. The National Ozone Unit (NOU) in the Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade continues to create awareness of the global ozone layer protection. Life on earth would not be possible without sunlight. Yet, the energy emanating from the sun would be too much for life on earth to thrive devoid of the ozone layer. This year's commemoration was themed - **'Montreal Protocols@35: Global Cooperation protecting the life on Earth'**. The event was held at Windhoek Vocational Training Centre and Hon. Lucia Lipumbu (Minister of Industrialisation and Trade) was the keynote speaker. In her address, Hon. Lipumbu beseeched the audience to commit and rededicate themselves to ensure the phasing-out of Ozone Depleting Substances and guarantee Namibia to remain compliant to the Montreal Protocol.



High table: Centre - Hon. lipumbu pictured with dignitaries at the event



Some of the participants at the event

Hon. Sinimbo officiate at training graduation



2nd from left: Hon. Verna Sinimbo (Deputy Minister - MIT), extreme right: H.E. Charles Moore (British High Commissioner to Namibia) pictured with participants at the graduation ceremony.

Hon. Verna Sinimbo (Deputy Minister of Industrialisation and Trade) delivered a keynote address at the Trade Forward Southern Africa (TFSA) Export Trade Training Graduation at the British High Commissioner's residence in the capital. At the event, 63 Namibian women business owners graduated after enrolling and completing modules in Export Assistance. The Export Trade Training Graduation programme operates across the SACU region to enhance regional trade and integration. Also, a mechanism through which the United Kingdom is enhancing partnership with both government and the private sector to promote a more inclusive economic environment. Most importantly, the training was designed to equip women entrepreneurs with critical skills and strategies to trade in a global market and increase capacity for businesses to enable them to become sustainable business owners. Conclusively, Hon. Sinimbo congratulated all graduates and urged them to explore vast opportunities presented through the acquired training.

NEDBANK Group Chairperson Pay courtesy call to Minister



Picture (from Left to Right): Ms. Sibongile Moyo (MD – Nedbank Zimbabwe); Ms. Martha Muroua (MD – Nedbank Namibia); Mr. Mpho Mahwana (Nedbank Group Chairperson); Hon. Lucia lipumbu (Minister of Industrialisation and Trade); Mr. Sebby Kankondi (Director – Nedbank); and Dr. Terence Sibiya (GME – Nedbank South Africa).

A seven-member delegation led by Mr. Mpho Mahwana (Nedbank Group Chairperson) paid a courtesy visit to Hon. Lucia lipumbu (Minister of Industrialisation and Trade), to forge synergy between the Ministry and financial sector (namely the bank) as well as collaborate on social economic needs appropriate to robust tangible economic development in the country. Nedbank – fondly known as the “Green Bank” is a purpose led-bank to do good for individuals, businesses and society. An institution driven to utilize innovative financing to accelerate the green economy transition to clean energy and fight climate change. Notable pivotal discussions engaged pertinent unifying scope embracing Industrialisation, African Continental Free Trade Area, SME support, the use of comparative advantage in natural resources and immense passion to contribute to the greener society of the planet. The Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade senior members of management were in attendance, accompanying Honorable Minister.

African Union Commission engage MIT



Centre: ED Sikongo Haihambo, next to him on the left is Mr. Wangadya Charles (AUC Head: Policy Analysis and Research).

A delegation from the African Union Commission (AUC) engaged the Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade on the progress made towards the African Agenda 2063. The AUC was conducting an assessment of the first ten years implementation plan and further develop the successor ten year plan of the Agenda 2063. The process was intended to allow interactions with all member states, carry out an introspection on the successes, challenges and identity areas for improvement. The delegation was informed of best practices Namibia as a country has put in, especially the Industrialization aspect with a clear view of realizing the national agendas as well at contributing to the continental aspirations. Views were shared on best practices that can be adopted additionally to the existing strategies to better have the agenda of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) agreement realized. Amongst those includes, fostering trade facilitations, enhanced Industrialization and manufacturing which is key in adding value to the Continental Free Trade Area agreement.

H.E Mtintso paid a courtesy call to ED Haihambo



From Left: Diana Tjiposa - Acting Director for International Trade, Pela Selomo - First Secretary SA High Commission in Namibia, H.E Thenjiwe Ethel Mtintso - South Africa High Commissioner to Namibia, MIT ED Sikongo Haihambo, Deputy ED International Trade & Commerce Ndiitah Nghipondoka-Robiati and Deputy Director for Trade Agreements Asser Nashikaku.

The South African High Commissioner to Namibia, H.E Thenjiwe Ethel Mtintso paid a courtesy call to the Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade Executive Director Sikongo Haihambo. The purpose of the visit was part of a series of visits to introduce herself to relevant stakeholders and further look into the implementation of the agreements between the two countries and how best it can be improved. The meeting discussed establishments of platforms to have the two countries engage for further cooperation, especially having a joint business forum to expand opportunities, enhance collaboration and stage mechanism to unlock opportunities between the two nations. A proposal in the conduit looks into having a senior officials meeting between the two countries in 2023. Mr. Haihambo reiterated how South Africa is a very crucial and reliant partner to Namibia in terms of trade and exports.

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Social Security Commission

- Social security contributions - it is funded by employer and employee contributions of 0.9% of the basic salary, with a maximum contribution of NAD 81 per month each.
- What are the 3 types of Social Security? The rise will affect the payment of the three main forms of Social Security support: retirement benefits, disability benefits, and Supplemental Security Income.

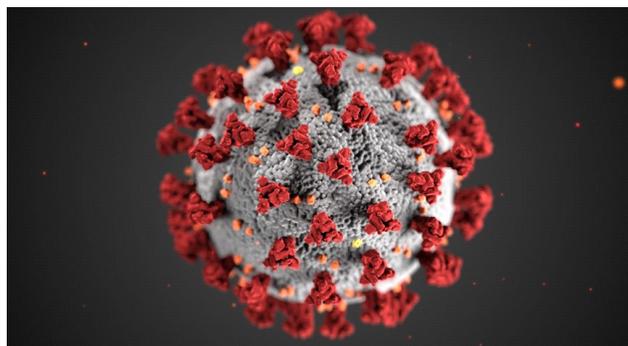
STAFF BIRTHDAYS

Akuka Mirjam	12 Dec	Kistings Johannes	06 Nov
Amoomo Dolly	10 Oct	Mangundu Angelika	22 Oct
Booyesen Celeste	11 Oct	Mbeha Chuma	24 Nov
Frans Lusua	26 Oct	Mbazuvava Tjipena	25 Dec
Gabriel Victoria	15 Dec	Mukubonda Ivan	02 Dec
Goagoses Frieda	21 Dec	Mulyongwe Orpa	16 Dec
Gustaf Lukas	09 Dec	Murangi Muzire	29 Dec
Haidula Salom	12 Dec	Nakale Petrina	24 Dec
Haikera Olavi	11 Nov	Namundjembo Iyaloo	4 Nov
Haindongo Lahya	05 Oct	Nangola Benyamen	30 Oct
Hanghuwo Selma	21 Nov	Nangolo Saima	24 Dec
Hamundjebo Matheus	09 Oct	Nashidengo Diina	30 Dec
Hamutenya Heinrich	09 Oct	Nekuma Frans	04 Oct
Hanhuwo Selma	21 Nov	Niipaya Victoria	02 Oct
Hasholo Evelina	19 Oct	Puriza Juanita	19 Nov
Lininga Wilhemina	2 Dec	Silishebo Meriam	30 Oct
litula Nicky	13 Dec	Siteketa Bonifasa	24 Oct
Hon. lipumbu Lucia	20 Nov	Sheehama Fransina	12 Nov
Kaduwa Lydia	02 Oct	Shikongo Aina	30 Dec
Kamatoto Josephat	25 Dec	Shipanga Nafimane	21 Dec
Kasika Gift	15 Oct	Shivute Ndilimeke	19 Dec
Kanyimba Aruni	10 Oct	Tjipanga Desmond	09 Oct

UPCOMING EVENT (S)

Nationwide stakeholders' engagement on Consumer Protection & Liquor Licensing Process

The Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade through the Directorate of Commerce is conducting nationwide engagements with key stakeholders such as local authorities, consumers, business community as well as political office bearers on matters pertaining to the administration of the Liquor Act, Act no 6 of 1998, and the recently launched National Consumer Protection Policy as well as the Consumer Protection Bill. The first engagement took place in Windhoek (Komas Region) on 23 September 2022 at the Ministry of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security, Training Hall, Ground Floor. The second engagement took place at Swakopmund (Erongo Region) on 27 October 2022, at Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources Auditorium. Future engagements are/ will be open to the public and all interested parties are invited to attend.



COVID-19 UPDATE

Namibia lifted all COVID-19 related restrictions as of July 15 2022, proof of vaccination still required for entry by foreign travelers.