



Republic of Namibia

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MIT Newsletter

MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIALISATION AND TRADE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



VISION

A leading agent for economic structural transformation.

MISSION

To create and sustain a conducive business environment through value addition, enterprise development, market access and investment promotion for the benefit of all.

VALUES

Teamwork
Transparent
Innovative
Professional
Integrity
Accountability

CONTENTS

Editor's Note	3
MIT hosts Nam - SA Business Forum	4-5
New Metrology Act launched,	6
WIPO delegation pays MIT Minister courtesy visit	7
GIZ donates equipment to MIT	8
Bank Windhoek hosts online agriculture series	9
Keetmanshoop Expo lauded for contribution to economy	10
MIT Minister opens 16 th Helao Nafidi Business Expo	11
Namibi participates at EU-Nam Business Forum in Belgium	12
MIT delegation visits Namibia Industrial Hub in DRC	13
Why using correct branding is important	14
MIT in Photos	15
Commercial Counsellors trained on protocol & etiquette	16
MIT Institutional Customer Service Charter	17
Staff Movements	18

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in the MIT

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EDITOR'S NOTE

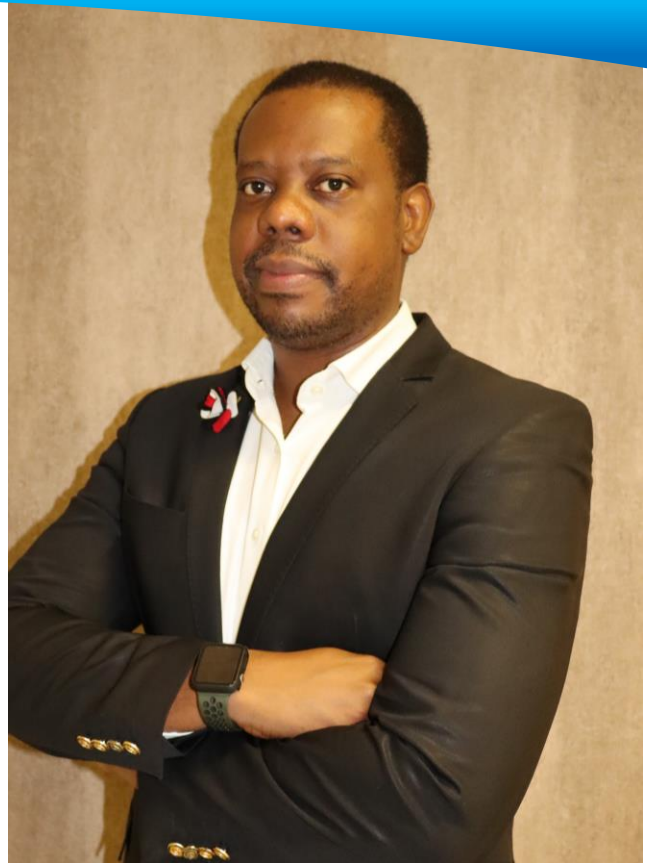
Dear Reader,

It is time for the end-of-the-year epistle where we take the opportunity to acknowledge the work that has made the Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade (MIT) live up to its mandate over the past three (3) months. It starts with thanking you, our staff members and stakeholders, without whom this newsletter would not exist in the first place.

The MIT continues to promote and broaden economic growth and development through the creation and execution of suitable policies to draw in investment, boost trade, and strengthen and broaden the nation's industrial base. The Ministry's activities are designed to help the country achieve socio-economic development goals, which include creating opportunities that will in turn lead to employment creation, promoting income equality, and achieving high and sustained economic growth.

The MIT's operational calendar for the Third Quarter of the 2023/24 Financial Year was packed with business activities; local and international trade visits, and trade shows. The Ministry was represented at important international forums, for instance at the Eight World Investment Forum (WIF) 2023 in Abu Dhabi.

MIT's Corporate Communications Sub-Division is tasked with making sure that information is distributed to its internal and external clients in a timely and accurate manner. To fulfill this duty, the Sub-division is however still reliant on the offices, directorates, and divisions of this Ministry for their technical assistance, information, and regular communication to maintain the flow of information.



Elijah Mukubonda
Editor

Going into the New Year 2024, the Ministry will continue to live up to its mandate; and facilitate and promote trade activities and linkages important to Namibia's business and trade growth.

The Ministry wishes the entire Management and Staff Members, Agencies, Stakeholders and general public a prosperous new year filled with more trade undertakings as well as business development and growth of the Namibian economy.

Pleasant reading!

MIT HOSTS NAM-SA BUSINESS FORUM



The Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade (MIT) hosted the Namibia-South Africa Business Forum and Exhibition in October 2023 at the Windhoek Country Club, where business executives from the two countries explored opportunities to increase trade and investment flows.

Deliberations were mainly focused on four key sectors, namely, Agriculture and Agro-processing, Automotive, Green Hydrogen, and Clothing and Textiles.

The Forum, held under the theme: “Forging a New Era of Mutually Beneficial and Reciprocal Trade and Investment Relations” coincided with the 3rd Session of the Namibia-South Africa Bi-National Commission (BNC), co-chaired by His Excellency, Dr. Hage G. Geingob, President of the Republic of Namibia and H.E Mr. Cyril Ramaphosa, President of the Republic of South Africa.

During the Forum, MIT Minister, Hon. Lucia lipumbu said the Forum attests to the two countries and business sectors’ interest and recognition of the immense economic potential that is to be harnessed through our collaboration.

“Namibia and South Africa shares deep historic and economic ties and that continues to grow from strength to strength. The warm ties between our leaders and our people further reinforce these relations,” Hon. lipumbu said.

Meanwhile, South African Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition, Hon. Ebrahim Patel also placed emphasis on partnerships and regional value chains, stressing that Namibia and South Africa should not be passive bystanders but mutually benefit from regional value chains and business-to-business engagements.

FEEDBACK FROM ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS BY BUSINESS LEADERS

The private sector delegations represented at the forum acknowledged that Africa's intra-trade is led by the South African Customs Union (SACU) because of trade relations, the physical infrastructure, the financial systems governance, and the political will.

However, more is desired as Namibia aspires to add value to its resources and develop its various sectors. South Africa is very instrumental in this, not only because of its market size but also the technology and economic knowledge.

(continued on page 5.)

MIT HOSTS NAM-SA BUSINESS FORUM (CONT...)

The following interventions were reported back from the roundtable discussions by business leaders from both countries:

- Namibia and SA recognized their trading history, thus reviewing of some SACU provisions would be critical going forward.
- Private sector and policymakers should provide a new approach to trade facilitation to ensure aspired benefits materialize.
- Private sector should take advantage of the AfCFTA agreement that allows for cumulation for value addition to take place.
- Namibia and SA should strengthen infrastructure such as roads and railways at the regional level which connects the two countries to the rest of the continent.

STATEMENT OF INTENT TO LAUNCH BUSINESS COUNCIL AND DEVELOPMENT FUND

Concluding the one-day engagement, Hon. lipumbu and her South African counterpart, Hon. Ebrahim Patel signed a statement of intent to launch the Business Council and Development Fund between the two countries, with its interventions expected to be finalised by the end of March 2024.



Photo: His Excellency, Mr. Cyril Ramaphosa, President of the Republic of South Africa (L) and H.E. Dr. Hage G. Geingob, President of the Republic of Namibia (R) exchange pleasantries during a briefing on the roundtable discussions by business leaders at the Forum.



Photo: South African Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition, Hon. Ebrahim Patel (L) and MIT Minister, Hon. Lucia lipumbu (R) pictured after signing the Statement of Intent.



Photo: Manufacturers and service providers in the Agriculture, Agro-processing, Automotive, Green Hydrogen, Clothing and Textiles exhibited their products on the sidelines of the Forum.



Photo: Captains of industry pictured during the opening session of the Business Forum.



Photo: Rapporteurs followed the various deliberations attentively during the Forum.

NEW METROLOGY ACT, 2022 LAUNCHED, AWARENESS CAMPAIGN CONDUCTED



Photo: Hon. Lucia lipumbu pictured during her keynote address at the launch of the Metrology Act, 2022 and Awareness Campaign.

The New Metrology Act, 2022 (Act 5 of 2022) and Awareness Campaign was officially launched in Windhoek in October 2023. The Act is aimed at informing and capacitating the nation on changes to the metrology legal framework, on administration and enforcement-related matters.

Emphasising the importance of metrology to trade, Hon. Lucia lipumbu said during the launch event, the Act came at a time when Namibia is experiencing a growing need for accelerated metrology services and regulatory framework as a result of domestic and international market access; growing consumer awareness and the desire for quality goods and services.

She added that the implementation of the new Metrology Act will serve as a cornerstone for the realization of some of the country's trade-related objectives on economic emancipation and social progression.

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Hon. lipumbu also highlighted that the Act addresses the broadened gap on the lack of application of metrology controls on critical measurements in health, safety and the environment that exists in our current laws, thereby enhancing consumer protection and conformity assessment activities.

"It is worth mentioning that countries draw up metrology laws based on their national needs and the desire for regional and international harmonization of metrology regulations," she said.

The Metrology Act further attends to Namibia's national quest to be synchronized with our trading partners to foster market access and alleviate technical trade barriers based on measurements.

She concluded by stating that the implementation of the new Metrology Act will serve as a cornerstone for the realization of some of the trade related objectives on economic emancipation and social progression.

The Awareness Campaign was carried out in all 14 regions, and ended on 13 November 2023.

WIPO DELEGATION PAYS MIT MINISTER COURTESY VISIT



Photo: MIT's Minister, Hon. Lucia lipumbu (Center) pictured with WIPO's DG, Mr. Daren Tang (fifth from Left), and senior managers from the Organisation, Business Intellectual Property Authority (BIPA) and MIT.

A delegation led by the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), Mr. Daren Tang, paid a courtesy visit to the Minister of Industrialisation and Trade, Hon. Lucia lipumbu in Windhoek in November 2023.

During a brief engagement, Hon. lipumbu welcomed the WIPO delegation and noted that the relationship between the Ministry and the Organisation dates back to when the Business Intellectual Property Authority (BIPA) Act was enacted [in 2016]. Thereafter, the Ministry has been acceding to various instruments which gives the Ministry impetus for meaningful intellectual property (IP) activities, she said.

On his part, the WIPO DG said the Organisation intends to transform the IP system to be a catalyst for global development as way of creating jobs, attracting investments and supporting the aspirations of young Namibians.

The visit explored how countries like Namibia could harness the power of IP to support MSMEs, women, youth, and indigenous and local communities. "We are keen to explore, not only at a strategic level and policy level but also at the project level, to see how we can support Namibia," Mr. Tang stated.

The WIPO delegation was in Namibia on a two-day official visit, which was aimed at strengthening cooperation with WIPO during this visit.



Photo: WIPO DG, Mr. Daren Tang (L) explains the purpose of his visit in Namibia during his courtesy visit to MIT Minister, Hon. Lucia lipumbu.



Photo: Deputy Minister for Sport, Youth and National Service, Hon. Emma. Kantema-Gaomas (L); MIT's ED, Mr. Sikongo Haihambo (C) and Deputy ED for International Trade, Ms. Ndiitah Nghipondoka-Robiati pictured during the courtesy visit.

GIZ DONATES EQUIPMENT TO MIT



Photo: MIT's Minister, Hon. Lucia lipumbu receives donated items from GIC during the official handover ceremony recently at the NIDA Warehouse in the Northern Industrial Area.

The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) has generously donated equipment valued at N\$ 9 million to the Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade (MIT), aimed at supporting Start-Up related activities of the Ministry in the future.

The donated equipment was officially handed over to the Ministry on 14 December 2023 and received by the Minister, Hon. Lucia lipumbu. Amongst the donated equipment are vehicles, furniture and industrial machinery.

The equipment valued at N\$ 9 million forms part of the bilateral project 'Startup Namibia' aimed at supporting Startup activities of the Ministry and will be managed under the EMPRETEC Namibia Programme.

Speaking at the handover ceremony, MIT's Minister, Hon. Lucia lipumbu expressed gratitude for the donation noting that the cutting-edge technology of the equipment is useful in enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the Ministry's operations.

The Minister further underscored that the equipment will undoubtedly play a pivotal role in empowering the local businesses, facilitating enterprise development, and ultimately contributing to the overall development of the nation.

The Ministry intends to use the donated items to supporting various enterprises, especially startups and scale-ups.

BANK WINDHOEK HOSTS ONLINE AGRICULTURE SERIES 2023



Bank Windhoek hosted the second Online Agriculture Series in October 2023, aimed at bringing experts in banking field to share knowledge with those in the agriculture sector and interested parties to contribute to the sector's commitment and drive.

The Series was held under the theme, 'Innovation and Trends that will shape the future of Agriculture', and was broadcast live on the Bank's social media platforms.

The four-part series engaged the public on agriculture innovation, maximising production, improving crop yields with minimal water usage, and understanding the current agricultural economics and megatrends.

Addressing the opening session of the Series, Deputy Minister of Industrialisation and Trade, Honourable Verna Sinimbo highlighted key milestones from the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement by Namibia.

She also stated that the agricultural sector is the cornerstone of economies, provides jobs, ensures food

security, and contributes significantly to the country's GDP.

Hon. Sinimbo also indicated that the AfCFTA has the potential to boost intra-African agricultural trade, leading to increased economic opportunities and overall growth, therefore AfCFTA can promote the trade of agricultural products, making it easier for countries to access diversity of food and reduce food deficiency.

The Deputy Minister furthermore called for collaboration between the Government and private sector to identify and address challenges faced in accessing regional and continental markets, as the success of AfCFTA relies on the collective efforts thereof.

Since 2018, Bank Windhoek has organised a number of Agriculture Talk platforms to educate interested parties on pertinent agricultural trends and issues while also providing a forum for industry leaders to share their expertise and support the sector's dedication and ambition.

KEETMANSHOOP EXPO LAUDED FOR CONTRIBUTION TO ECONOMY



Photo: Officials from the Namibia Competition Commission (NaCC), Namibian Standards Institution (NSI), and MIT pictured with second princess for KAITE 2023, Ms. Ms. Willmary Janser in Keetmanshoop.

The Minister of Industrialisation and Trade, Hon. Lucia lipumbu officiated the opening of the Keetmanshoop Agricultural, Industrial and Tourism Expo (KAITE) in the /Karas Region, where various businesses, micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) exhibited various products and services over the period of seven days.

The Expo is a platform aimed at providing businesses, especially MSMEs an ideal pedestal to showcase their innovations, and promote and market their products and services to strengthen economic development.

Hon. lipumbu, during the official opening of KAITE in October 2023 remarked that the /Kharas Region is contributing significantly to the country's gross domestic product (GDP) and foreign exchange earnings from its rich mineral resource extractions, namely diamonds, zinc, copper, marble, silver, tin and lead. These minerals are mainly mined in Oranjemund, Ludertiz and Rosh Pinah areas in the same region.

The region has a good performance in agricultural activities, as witnessed over the years, in yielding grapes and dates for local and export markets, as well as the huge potential of small stock farming, Hon. lipumbu noted.

The Minister indicated that the country needs to embrace the shift in the economic landscape, especially with the developing industries such as Green Hydrogen and the recent discoveries of oil and gas which are mostly based in the /Kharas region.

She urged its residents to ensure benefitting from all the opportunities present in the region. The Keetmanshoop Agricultural, Industrial & Tourism Expo ends on Sunday.

MIT SPONSORS 10 MSMEs AT KAITE

MIT also sponsored a total of 10 MSMEs from the /Karas Region, by securing exhibition stands at KAITE this year.

The MSMEs offer services and products including needle work and catering; wood work; handcraft; handbags and accessories; traditional medicine; and manufacturing of soap, leather shoes, and patch work.

Worth noting is one of the exhibitors sponsored by MIT, Mr. Romeo Joseph, was awarded the third prize in the category - outside exhibition for his display of handmade jewelry. Joseph is the owner of Romeo's beadwork, a small start-up business based in Karasburg.

MIT MINISTER OPENS 16TH HELAO NAFIDI BUSINESS EXPO 2023



The Minister of Industrialisation and Trade, Hon. Lucia Lipumbu opened the 16th Edition of the Helao Nafidi Business Expo (HNBE) 2023 in October 2023 at Helao Nafidi Town, Ohangwena Region.

The Business Expo held under the theme: “Innovative to unveil hidden treasure” started on 20 October 2023 and ended on 4 November 2023.

During her opening remarks, Hon. Lipumbu stated that the world has been facing unprecedented challenges, from economic disruptions to global health crises, however, amidst the eventualities, remarkable ability of innovation to not only adapt but thrive by the entrepreneur has been witnessed.

“I am pleased to note that the theme of this year’s expo focuses on innovation, as we are committed to reviving our respective businesses and the economy at large,” the Minister stated.

Hon. Lipumbu added that the Helao Nafidi Business Expo is a clear demonstration to the zeal of entrepreneurship and the creative minds of our communities. “This is a platform where local businesses, at all sizes, come together to showcase their innovations in the form of products and services.”

The Minister also signposted that it is high time for Namibians and in particular the Ohangwena region to look at inventive mechanisms aimed at accelerating structural economic transformation in order to ensure that Namibian businesses embraced the changing time.

She further stated that Angola must also be seen as one of the key trading partners not only at the level of informal trading but through tangible value chains development in manufacturing and sourcing of inputs.

NAMIBIA PARTICIPATES AT EU-NAM BUSINESS FORUM 2023 IN BELGIUM



A Namibian delegation participated at the first ever European Union-Namibia Business Forum 2023 (ENBF) which took place Brussels, Belgium from 24-25 October 2023, led by the Executive Director of the Ministry Industrialisation and Trade (MIT) Mr. Sikongo Haihambo.

Delivering a statement at the Forum, Haihambo indicated that the forum successfully brought together policy makers, Namibian and European captains of industry, and sectoral support institutions to deliberate on policy matters and create new business opportunities in Green Hydrogen and critical raw materials.

The Executive Director further highlighted the mandate of the Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade, which is to create an enabling environment required for the functioning and operation of businesses in the country, for both domestic and foreign companies alike, increase trade, develop and importantly expand the country's industrial base.

"We do that to advance our aspirations as enshrined in Namibia's national vision - Vision 2030," he said.

The Executive Director also spoke on matters related to Agro-processing, which remain a critical sector to Namibia's trade development agenda.

"Namibian beef export markets include the European Union under the Southern African Development Community – Economic Partnership Agreement (SADC-EPA); and Norway under the Southern African Customers Union – European Free Trade Area (SACU-EFTA)," Haihambo stated.

Haihambo also highlighted that there are opportunities brought about by the uptick development in producing green hydrogen and ammonia, and alignment with industries that support the green hydrogen.

He also highlighted the Critical Raw Materials (CRM) which is seen as a key lever to Namibia's industrialisation ambitions and the recently developed Special Economic Zone Policy (SEZ), hoped to ensure value addition of Namibia's CRM.

The ED concluded by urging everyone to fully utilise the platform and continue networking to form long-lasting strategic partnership and create new business opportunities.

The Forum was attended by among others, Namibian President, Dr. Hage G Geingob; Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of International Relations, Hon. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah; and other dignitaries. The two-day event ended on 25 October 2023.

MIT DELEGATION VISITS NAMIBIA INDUSTRIAL & TRADE HUB IN DRC



A Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade delegation led by its Executive Director, Mr. Sikongo Haihambo visited various facilities of economic development in the Democratic Republic of Congo in November.

The visits were aimed at reviving and intensifying trade relations between the two countries.

The Namibia delegation visited the Namibia Industrial and Trade Hub projects alongside the Lubumbashi and Kasumbalesa roads.

The visit was aimed at assessing the status of the sites to establish a proper guiding mechanism that will advise the idea of project revamping.

The MIT delegation also paid a courtesy visit to DRC's Minister of Economy and Commerce, Hon. Celine Kanyebe.

Hon. Kanyebe, during the visit urged the two countries to work together on implementing the signed Trade Agreement.

The Namibian Delegation was accompanied by Namibia's Ambassador to DRC, Amb. Simeon Uulenga.

To strengthen and promote the trade relations between the two countries, the MIT ED and the team also paid a visit to the Katanga Province's Deputy Governor Hon. Jean Claude Kamfwa.

Mr. Haihambo reaffirmed Namibia's commitment to revive the Namibia Industrial and Trade Hub project, which has been put on hold, due to budgetary constraints.

WHY USING CORRECT BRANDING IS IMPORTANT

Branding is one of your organisation's most important asset. It gives an organization an identity, and brings your employees pride.

However, inconsistent branding results in losing your client and public's trust. It leads to being associated with poor quality.

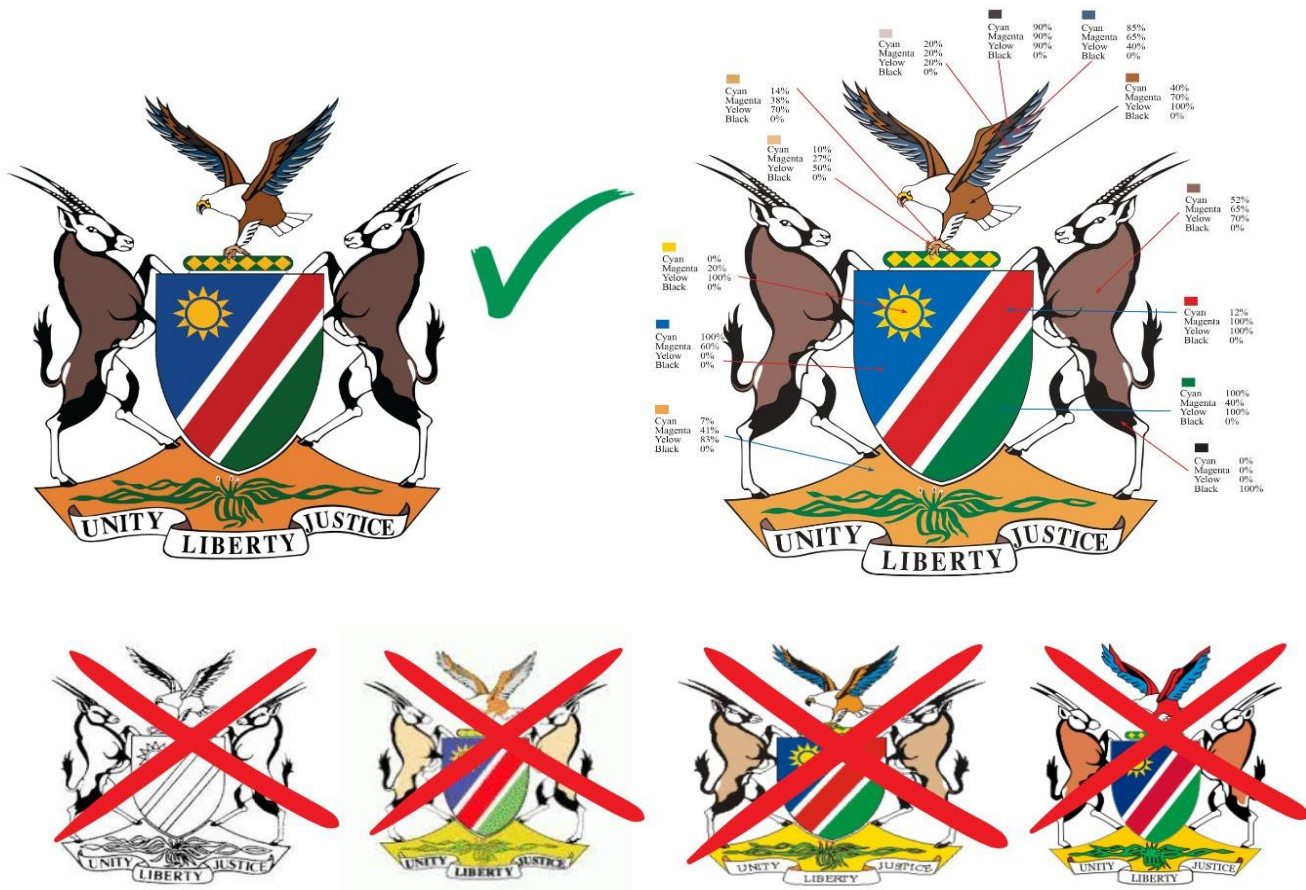
Additionally, inconsistent use of the wrong brand can confuse customers, and leaves room for fraudulent manipulation of documents.

On the other hand, consistently using a brand such as the correct Coat of Arms on an official document or correspondence gives it authenticity.

With consistency, you'll be able to cement the identity of your institution or organisation, and ensure that every one of your customers has a similar experience.

Government institutions use the Coat of Arms on the letterhead of all documents. The Coat of Arms is the official heraldic of Namibia.

Below is an illustration of the correct Coat of Arms to be used on all official documents and correspondences:



MIT IN PHOTOS



COMMERCIAL COUNSELLORS TRAINED ON PROTOCOL AND ETIQUETTE



The Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade (MIT) has appointed three new commercial counsellors who will be attached to the Brussels, Belgium, Geneva, Switzerland commercial offices, and a new office opened in Accra, Ghana.

Three new Commercial Counsellors are Mr. Sadick Chombo in Brussels, Ms. Justine Katepe in Accra, and Ms. Jeanethe Tjitaura who will be deployed to the Geneva office respectively. Their appointments are effective as of 1 January 2023.

The other commercial offices of the MIT include Washington, USA; Berlin, Germany; Beijing, China; Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; and Luanda, Angola.

During an induction on protocol and etiquette session held on 13 December 2023, the new and existing commercial counsellors received training on protocol diplomacy which was presented by the Ministry of International Relations and Cooperation (MIRCO), the role of commercial counsellors, and finance and administration.

MIT's Minister, Hon. Lucia lipumbu who also attended the induction, tasked the commercial officers to enhance economic activities and cooperation with nearby countries and to build more on strengthening trade relationships. Additionally, the officers will also have to represent Namibia in trade negotiations, promote Namibian products.



Hon. lipumbu also urged the new commercial counsellors to carefully analyse trade agreements, and acquaint themselves with various memorandums of understanding.

The Minister also cautioned the newly appointed counsellor to promote and protect the image of the Ministry and the country in general.



Republic of Namibia

MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIALISATION
AND TRADE

CUSTOMER SERVICE CHARTER

This Institutional Customer Service Charter is our commitment to continually improve our products/ services to exceed the client's expectation. It sets out clear service standards, service time frames and how we receive and deal with complaints.

The Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade (MIT) strives to provide high echelons of customer service and is committed to being a high performing organisation to provide value for our many stakeholders.



WHEN YOU CONTACT US

If you phone us

We will:

- Answer to your call within three (3) rings
- Return your call within two (2) days if we can't provide an answer immediately.

If you write to us:

We will:

- We acknowledge receipt within two (2) working days, provide you with an explanation of how we are handling your case and inform you when to expect an answer.

If you visit us

We will:

- We will attend to you within five (5) minutes if you have an appointment with us;
- We will respond to your questions while you are with us, if we cannot, we will let you know why, and when you can expect an answer;
- If you need referral, we will do it on your behalf by phone or by email and copy it to you and provide you with the name of the person to contact, address and contact details.

CORE VALUES

- Teamwork** We recognize the value and benefits of working together in unity of purpose, comradeship and fostering good team spirit and relation within the MIT and with our external partners and stakeholders.
- Transparent** We will be open in our practices to our clients and willing and available to account for all our actions and activities.
- Innovative** We pledge to be innovative in our methods of doing things
- Professionals** We will exhibit the requisite competencies and skills required in areas of responsibilities
- Integrity** A pledge to be above board in our behaviour and ethical in our conduct and dealings, objective and reasonable in treating each person equitably.
- Accountable** A pledge that will be held accountable for our actions.

OUR CUSTOMERS

- MIT Staff
- Media
- Service Provider/ Suppliers
- Business People, Community & General Public
- Traders, Exporters and Importers of goods and services
- Industries & Investors

WHAT WE ASK OF YOU

The quality of service we can provide to you depends on various issues including input and co-operation we receive. We therefore request you to:

- Be honest, polite and patient;
- Be timely in providing required and accurate information to the directorate;
- Comply with existing Legislations, Regulations and Procedures; and
- Treat our staff members with the necessary respect.

Visit the MIT website for the full version of the
Customer Service Charter.

Institution <https://mit.gov.na/charters>

STAFF MOVEMENTS

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Ms. Elizabeth Siranda

Administrative Officer (Grade 8)
Directorate Industrial Development
Nkurenkuru Regional Office

Mr. Joseph Mbanze

Cleaner (Grade 15)
Directorate: Industrial Development
Nkurenkuru Regional Office

Ms. Ndahafa Halweeendo

Control Administrative Officer (Grade 6)
Directorate General Services

TRANSFER IN RANK

Ms. Amalia Nangolo

Policy Analyst (Grade 7)
Directorate: International Trade, Division: Trade
Agreement, Subdivision: Trade Agreement and
Coordination

Mr. Ivan Mukubonda

Accountant (Grade 8)
Directorate: General Services, Subdivision:
Finance

RETIREMENT

Ms. Lydia Kaduwa

Hygiene Officer
Retirement at the age of 60

PROMOTION TO OTHER OMAs

Mr. Josia Kamati

Chief Accountant (Grade 6)
Office of the Auditor General

PROMOTION WITHIN THE MIT

Ms. Celeste Booysen

Chief Economist (Grade 6)
Directorate: Commerce, Division: Consumer
Protection and Internal Market Regulations,
Subdivision: Consumer Rights Protection.

Ms. Lirongeni Kakumo

Administrative Officer (Grade 12)
Directorate of General Services



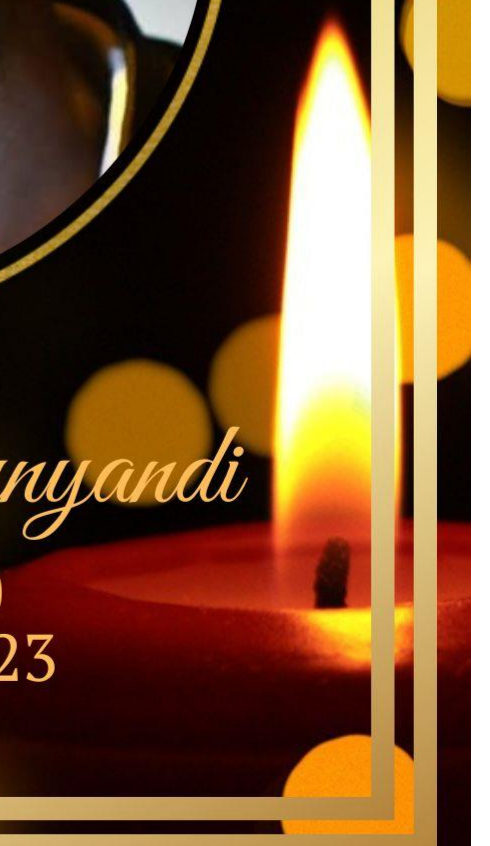
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIALISATION
AND TRADE

IN LOVING MEMORY



Peter Taivo Munyandi

* 2 August 1990
+ 1 December 2023



Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade

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