



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

WELCOMING REMARKS BY

MR. SIKONGO HAIHAMBO

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: INDUSTRIALISATION AND TRADE
ON THE OCCASION OF THE INAUGURATION OF THE NAMIBIAN
STANDARDS COUNCIL (NSC) FOR THE PERIOD 01 JULY 2020
TO 30 JUNE 2025**

**DATE 31 AUGUST 2022
6TH FLOOR BOARDROOM
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIALISATION AND TRADE**

HON. LUCIA IIPUMBU – MINISTER

HON. VERNA SINIMBO – DEPUTY MINISTER

MS. MATILDE JANKIE-SHAKWA – VICE-CHAIRPERSON OF NSC

NSC BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

MS. CHIE WASSERFALL – CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER NSI

MIT AND NSI OFFICIALS PRESENT

MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

1. Good morning. It is a real pleasure to be here to welcome you all to the inaugural meeting of the Namibian Standards Council (NSC). I appreciate your willingness to make the considerable investment of time and skills to participate on the Council. You will surely provide the Namibia Standards Institution and the Ministry with invaluable perspectives as we navigate through strategic challenges with a view to finding solutions. The breadth of experiences represented on the Council will no doubt provide the NSI with much needed insight needed to consider the challenges facing management.
2. In recent times we have started experiencing the unwanted phenomenon of board members fighting amongst themselves and even resorting to courts to sort out their differences. I therefore wish to caution and advise you against protracted legal challenges and rather focus your energy towards finding lasting solutions to the challenges that may present

themselves. Effective boards have several ways to avoid litigation and preserve civility among dissenting board members.

3. The power of the board is as a body of the whole, not as individual actors. It is expected that as Council members you should avoid personal self-interests and speak on behalf of the NSI. The commitment to serve on the Council should be tied to the inextricable acknowledgement that 'no individual Council member has the power or authority to act on his or her own'.
4. With those few words, I wish to congratulate you on your appointments and I look forward to working with you as we endeavour to take NSI to greater heights.

Welcome once again and I thank you.