MINING

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REAL ESTATE

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LEGAL

SNC Incorporated nominated in three categories at IFLR Africa Legal Awards p. 11



BR/EF

Puma suspends charging point rollout due to low EV uptake, high prices **FRIDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2024**





PUBLIC INVITATION

findly submit a write up of not more than 1000 words articulating your well researched

The Namibian Revenue Agency (NamRA) hereby invite members of the public to participate in the public competition called **NamRA Talks**. This is a great opportunity for all those who want

- . Should capital gains taxes be introduced to Namibia?
- How can NamRA strike the balance between Customs Enforcement and Trade Facilitation?
 Do the zero-rated essential items have a positive impact on the end users?
- The Authorised Economic Operator- Compliance Programme and Small and Micro Enterprises in Namibia

The 10 selected submissions will be presented in person before a panel of judges and in full view of the public.

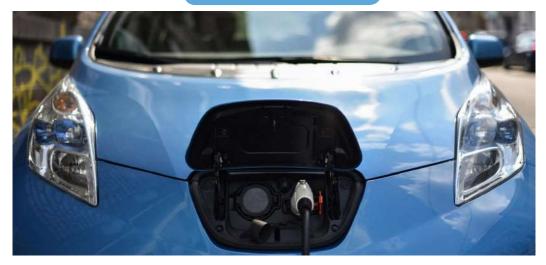
Presentations are set for 19 March 2024 at a venue to be confirmed.

Exciting prizes are on offer for the winning submissions:

11 Prize N\$10,000 22 Prize N\$5,000 50 Prize N\$2,500

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MAIN STORY



Puma suspends charging point rollout due to low EV uptake, high prices

Puma Energy Namibia has put on hold its plan to install electric vehicle (EV) charging stations across the country, citing low EV adoption and high vehicle costs.

Adell Samuelson, General Manager of Puma Energy Namibia, explained that the current EV market lacks affordability and sufficient range, discouraging potential buyers.

"EVs remain quite unaffordable, with prices ranging from N\$700,000 to N\$1 million, which is beyond the reach of most Namibians," she stated. Additionally, the limited driving range of available models (120km to 400km) deters potential users.

Samuelson emphasised the need to avoid undertaking initiatives that may ultimately

Crucial Dates

- Bank of Namibia Monetary Policy announcement date:
 - 17 April 2024
 - 19 June 2024
 - 14 August 2024
 - 23 October 2024
 - 4 December 2024
- Minister of Finance and Public Enterprises Ipumbu Shiimi, to table the FY 2024/25 Budget in the National Assembly on Wednesday, 28 February 2024.
- Africa Hospitality Investment Forum (Ahif). 25-27 June 2024
 Mövenpick Hotel, Windhoek, Namibia
- Global African Hydrogen Summit (GAh2S)
 Windhoek, Namibia from 03 05 September 2024



prove unsuccessful.

"We do not wish to invest in infrastructure that may not be utilised. However, we remain optimistic about the future and intend to collaborate closely with car dealerships to revisit these plans."

Addressing additional concerns, Samuelson mentioned the complexities surrounding payment solutions for EV charging.

"Determining the preferred payment methods for charging EVs remains a challenge," she stated. "While our engineering team is prepared with specifications, we must first address this critical issue."

Samuelson outlined alternative strategies, focusing on strategic routes rather than widespread deployment. "Our current focus is on identifying strategic routes for potential charging stations," she remarked. "We have engaged with EV owners and are considering locations based on their feedback and existing charging patterns."

Earlier this year, Puma Energy announced a partnership with car dealerships to introduce EV charging points, initially targeting routes such as the South Africa-Noordoewer-Windhoek-Swakopmund Route.

Samuelson also expressed empathy for the Road Fund Administration (RFA), which faces potential revenue challenges with the rise of electric vehicles. "The RFA must proactively explore revenue recovery plans," she urged. "As electric vehicles become more prevalent, the traditional fuel levy

revenue model may become unsustainable."

In response, Alli Iipinge, CEO of the RFA, appealed to lawmakers to devise policies to address future revenue concerns associated with the proliferation of EVs

Currently, Namibia boasts approximately 100 EVs, with the government revising its target from 10,000 EVs by 2030 to 96,500 by 2025. In contrast, the country has approximately 400,000 combustion vehicles.

Notable EV models available in Namibia include the Nissan Leaf, Mercedes EQA/EQB, and BMW iX. The Nissan Leaf, priced at around N\$240,000, according to research done by Sybrand de Waal ,an EV enthusiast. The car has a driving range of over 120km, while the Mercedes EQA boasts a range of 395km. The BMW iX, starting at N\$1.7 million, provides a range of approximately 400km.



Shifts in global smelting industry prompt Dundee's Tsumeb smelter sale

undee Precious Metals (DPM) says it was prompted to divest from the Tsumeb smelter due to changes in the global smelting landscape.

The mining company acquired the smelter in 2010 to secure a reliable processing outlet for its complex concentrate from the Chelopech mine in Bulgaria.

However, according to Zebra Kasete, Vice President and Managing Director of DPM Tsumeb, evolving conditions in the global smelting sector have now made owning a smelter unnecessary.

"With the evolving market, accessing other smelters is now feasible, allowing DPM to focus on its core business: mining and exploration," Kasete told The Brief.

"Therefore, we believe it's the right time to find a buyer with the expertise to ensure the smelter's long-term success, aligned with our strategic objectives."

Kasete further stated that plans to seek a buyer with the requisite expertise to safeguard the smelter's long-term viability in alignment with its strategic objectives are underway.

"DPM is a mining and exploration company and is focused on our primary business, which is mining and exploration. As a consequence, continued ownership of the Tsumeb smelter does not align with our long-term strategic plans. We therefore believe it is the right time to search for a buyer that has the needed



expertise and will be a good steward for the facility's long-term future," he explained.

He acknowledged that while the decision to seek a new owner was challenging, it aligns with the company's strategic plan and commitment to its primary business objectives, as DPM aims to prioritise its core focus on mining and exploration assets.

Kasete emphasised pride in their

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achievements in Namibia while highlighting the necessity of decisions consistent with their long-term goals.

"Our team and our investments in the smelter have helped transform it into a well-capitalized, efficient smelter with a world-class workforce. This is a unique asset that DPM believes will be of interest to a number of prospective buyers, and we, therefore, believe it is the right time to search for a buyer who has the expertise and who will be a good steward of the facility's long-term future," he said.

Knowngloballyforits capability to process complex polymetallic concentrates, including those with elevated arsenic levels, the Tsumeb smelter is a significant asset. It produces blister copper (98.5% Cu) sent for refinement in Europe and Asia, along with sulphuric acid sold to third-party clients for application in uranium and copper mining.

The decision to undertake this review was outlined in the company's 2023 Financial Results and Updated Three-Year Outlook, following Dundee's acquisition of the Twin Hills Gold Project from Osino Resources in December 2023.

In the fourth quarter of 2023, the smelter processed 67,891 tonnes of complex copper, marking a 26,056-tonne increase from the corresponding period in 2022.

Throughout 2023, the smelter processed 188,803 tonnes of complex copper concentrate, up

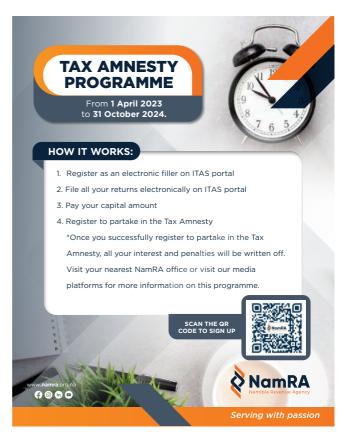
by 14,681 tonnes compared to 2022, primarily due to increased plant availability post-maintenance work in the third quarter of 2023.

The Tsumeb Smelter has a rich history, initially established by the Tsumeb Corporation Limited, a subsidiary of Newmont Mining Corporation, in 1962. Commissioned in 1963, the smelter served to process copper from Tsumeb Corporation's mines, including the recently reopened Kombat mine.

Following Newmont's divestment to Goldfields Namibia in 1988, subsequent declines in copper prices led to operational halts and eventual liquidation in 1998. Ongopolo Mining & Processing Limited took over Tsumeb Corporation's assets, including the smelter, in 2000.

In 2006, Weatherly International acquired Ongopolo's assets, later selling the smelter to Dundee Precious Metals in 2010 for US\$33 million.

- miningandenergy.com.na



Leveraging real estate in Namibia for consistent wealth building

By Petrina Keramen

amibia is an enchanting and multifaceted nation that offers a haven of stability in both its political and economic landscapes.

This makes it an ideal choice for those seeking opportunities in the local real estate market. Let's discuss the diverse opportunities across various asset classes, each with its own characteristics, risks, and benefits. Understanding these classes can help investors leverage their unique advantages.

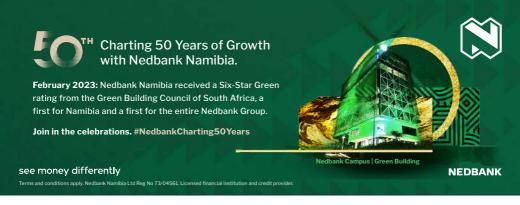
1. Residential Real Estate

Residential real estate includes properties such as apartments, townhomes and free-standing homes, either completely free-standing or in gated communities. It's characterised by its sole use for residential purposes by tenants or owners.

Leverage Strategies:

-Rental Income: Investors can generate steady income through rent. This can be enhanced by selecting areas with high rental





demand as prices are highly influenced by the location of the property.

- Appreciation: Over time, residential properties build equity and increase in value. Investors can benefit from the buyand-hold strategy and then selling off at a higher price at a later stage.
- Short-term Rentals: With new opportunities emerging in the country there has been a sudden influx in the demand for short-term rentals. Thus, platforms like Airbnb have popularised short-term rentals, potentially offering higher returns than traditional monthly leasing.

2. Commercial Real Estate

This class encompasses properties used for business purposes, including office

spaces, retail stores, warehouses, and shopping centres.

Leverage Strategies:

- Long-term Leases: Commercial properties often have longer lease providing agreements, stable and predictable income. As a value addition investors can improve or repurpose a property to increase its worth and rental income.
- Diverse Tenants: Investing in multitenant properties can reduce the risk of income loss from vacancies during market downtimes.

3. Industrial Real Estate

Industrial assets include warehouses,



distribution centres, manufacturing facilities, and storage units. These properties are pivotal for logistics, manufacturing, and distribution operations.

Leverage Strategies:

- E-commerce Growth: The rise of online shopping has spiked demand for distribution centres and warehouses.
- Location: Properties near major transport hubs can command higher rents and have strong appreciation potential.

4. Vacant Land (Raw Virgin/Agricultural)

Land investment involves purchasing undeveloped land with the intention of holding or developing it. It includes raw land, agricultural land, and infill sites within urban areas.

Leverage Strategies:

- Development: Investors can increase land value by securing permits and infrastructure for development which they can either use for rental income or sell off for profit.
- Speculation: Buying land in the path of future growth can yield high returns when the area develops.
- Leasing for Use: Land can be leased for agricultural, solar farms, or lodges for recreational uses providing income while holding.

Bonus Editions:

5. Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)

REITs allow investors to invest in real estate without owning



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physical properties. They are companies that own, operate, or finance income-generating real estate.

Leverage Strategies:

- Diversification: REITs offer exposure to various sectors and geographical areas, reducing risk.
- Liquidity: Unlike physical real estate, REITs can be bought and sold on stock exchanges, offering liquidity.
- Income: REITs are required to distribute at least 90% of their taxable income to shareholders, providing a regular income stream.

In conclusion, each real estate asset class offers unique opportunities and challenges. Investors can leverage these classes by understanding their characteristics and market dynamics. Diversification across asset classes. thorough market research, and strategic investment planning are key to maximising returns and minimising risks in real estate investment.

*Petrina Keramen is a Property Specialist withEmpressRealtors and can be reached on Facebook: Petrina Ablonia Keramen and Instagram: empress_ realtors



MTC, Keetmanshoop ink digital service solutions agreement

o b i l e
Telecommunications
Ltd (MTC) and the Municipality of Keetmanshoop have inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance and provide digital service solutions to the populace of Keetmanshop.

The MoU is prompted by the municipality's drive to adopt modern technology and quality connectivity in its promise to seamlessly serve and deliver quality municipal services to the residents of the Southern town.

MTC Acting Chief Commercial Officer, Elton Katangolo, said MTC as a digital enabler is intentional to meaningfully contribute and aid Namibian institutions to incorporate digitalisation in how they conduct business.

"MTC is pleased to have laid a cooperation framework with the leadership of Keetmanshoop



DBMNEO468 PROVISION OF CUSTOMS CLEARING SERVICES

Debmarine Namibia is looking for an experienced service provider to provide customs clearing services.

SCOPE OF WORK:

The scope of the tender without limitation includes the provision of custom clearing services to Debmarine Namibia in accordance with the requirements of the tender documentation.

Registered businesses interested in providing such services are requested to obtain a tender document with reference number DBMNE0468 PROVISION OF CUSTOMS CLEARING SERVICES

REQUEST FOR ELECTRONIC TENDER DOCUMENT: Tenders@debmarine.com

DBMNE0468 PROVISION OF CUSTOMS CLEARING SERVICES Subject line:

ENOUIRIES: The Procurement Officer Tel: +264 61 297 8460

Email: Tenders@debmarine.com DISCLAIMER:

Debmarine Namibia shall not be responsible for any costs incurred in the preparation and submission of a response to this tender and furthermore reserves the right not to extend this tender into any future tenders, negotiations and

rine Namibia shall not accept submissions rendered after the closing date and time



Town Council, through which we will be facilitating to transform how the municipality conduct[s] business from traditional to a more vibrant ecosystem of connected digital web that enhances users' experience," he said at the signing ceremony.

At the occasion, the Mayor of Keetmanshoop, McDonald Hanse expressed that "the signing of this Memorandum



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Digital Banking Head FNB Namibia Retail Segment

Purpose:

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Overview:

- Lead the strategic development and implementation of digital solutions across the product pillars, as well as oversee online banking, the FNB App and cellphone banking (USSD), driving customer experience and adoption, ensuring adequate security protocols, collaborating with cross-functional teams and staying abreast of industry trends to enhance the overall digital value proposition.
- Build and execute a comprehensive plan aligning to business objectives relating to digital banking, including assessing market trends, identifying technological opportunities, and developing a roadmap for digital migration and collaborating with key stakeholders to foster innovation and sustained competitive advantage.
- Oversee and coordinate alignment in all retail platform strategic initiatives to enhance user experience, streamline the operation side and ensure seamless integration with emerging technologies.
- Work closely with data analytics and product houses to maintain a customer-centric approach to drive digital migration.
- Orchestrate the transition from traditional channels to digital channels. Implement robust
 onboarding processes, educate customers on digital services and optimize platform processes for
 better efficiency. Collaborate with cross-functional teams to ensure sufficient security measures
 are in place to meet regulatory requirements.
- Oversee the planning and execution of testing processes to ensure that digital banking channels
 meet user requirements and expectations.

You will be an ideal candidate if you:

- · Have a post-graduate Commercial, Science or Engineering degree
- Have 5-8 years' experience in a similar environment, of which 2-3 years' ideally at management level
- · Are a highly energetic self-starter with the initiative to drive projects
- · Have excellent communication, presentation and interpersonal skills
- Have teamwork and assertiveness skills

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Please note: All suitably qualified candidates will be considered. Appointments will be made in line with the Group's EE Strategy. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Applicants will be subjected to ITC and reference checks.

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of Agreement with MTC is not just a symbolic gesture; it is a tangible commitment to align Keetmanshoop with the current trends of technology and innovation."

"Through this partnership, we will leverage the expertise and resources of MTC to implement a comprehensive smart city framework that addresses the unique needs and challenges of our town."

The mayor also highlighted the long-term development goal of Keetmanshoop saying improving the access to information for residents through such MoUs is set to exponentially strengthen the communication sector of a town.

"Increased municipal management of digital infrastructures will transform Keetmanshoop into a smart city, which will provide high-speed internet, strong mobile connectivity, and various digital services as an accessible necessity, not as a luxury," he said.

With this partnership, Keetmanshoop town is set to pursue smart metering, improved service delivery, systems efficiency, seamless data-driven business processes, enhanced citizen satisfaction and supporting and nurturing local digital innovation and solutions.

SNC Incorporated nominated in three categories at IFLR Africa Legal Awards



NC Incorporated has been nominated in three categories for the IFLR Africa Legal Awards 2024, which are set to be held at the Protea Hotel Johannesburg Balaika, South Africa, on 11 April 2024.

SNC Incorporated has been nominated in the categories of Rising Star Law Firm of the Year, National Law Firm of the Year for Namibia, and Team of the Year for Southern/East Africa Projects.

In the Team of the Year for Southern/ East Africa category, SNC Incorporated is nominated alongside some of the oldest and most distinguished law firms, such as Webber Wentzel, White & Case (Johannesburg), Bowmans, DLA Piper Africa, and ENSafrica.

The IFLR Africa Legal Awards are unique in the legal market for focusing on legal innovation through dealmaking and celebrating work that improves the cross-border investment environment. The 2024 Africa awards highlight some of the most impressive achievements of 2023 by law firms from across the African continent. "SNC Incorporated is



His Excellency Dr. Hage G. Geingob

The Namibia Civil Aviation Authority Board, management and staff joins the Namibian nation in mourning the untimely passing of our Head of State and Government, His Excellency Dr. Hage G. Geingob. His visionary leadership and enduring legacy will continue to inspire us.

We extend our heartfelt profound condolences to Her Excellency Madame Monica Geingos, the bereaved family and the entire Namibian nation during this difficult time.

May his soul rest in eternal peace.



honored to be nominated and recognized alongside other distinguished law firms on the African continent. We remain committed to continuing to serve our clients with exceptional legal and advisory services that are effective and meet our clients' specific needs. These nominations solidify SNC Incorporated's commitment to excellence and its contributions to the energy, corporate, financial, and commercial legal landscape across the African Continent," SNC Incorporated Managing Partner, Shakwa Nyambe said.

SNC Incorporated is a full-service energy, natural resources, commercial, and dispute resolution law firm with offices in Windhoek.

Namdeb Celebrates Valentine's Day













Namdeb employees chose to celebrate valentine's day by promoting wellness through love under the theme "Love to Live. This aligns with the company's wellness journey of making safety and wellness a priority.

Interest rates hold steady for now

By Justina Hamupembe

The recent decision by the BON's Monetary Policy Committee to keep the reporate at 7.75% has sparked a mix of reactions, balancing relief and concern among different segments of the population. While some had hoped for a rate cut to alleviate financial burdens, the decision to keep rates steady, at least for now, is seen as an effort to prevent additional strain on debt holders.

One notable challenge highlighted is the difficulty for consumers to afford property in the current economic landscape. The combination of existing high-interest rates and the overall cost of living has tightened belts, making it particularly tough for individuals, especially first-time buyers, to step onto the property ladder. Many of those who purchased homes in 2020 when interest rates were at their lowest have faced a stark reality as homeownership has become more financially demanding.

However, there is a glimmer of hope on the horizon. Most economists are predicting a stable interest rate environment for the first half of the year, with potential decreases in the latter half. The prospect of lower interest





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rates is seen as a positive development for the property market, as it could ease the financial pressure on existing homeowners and create more opportunities for aspiring buyers.

Despite the optimistic outlook, homeowners are advised to keep their debt levels as low as possible. This includes focusing on highinterest debts like personal loans or car loans and directing spare cash towards paying off these obligations. The recommendation is to avoid taking on new debts whenever possible, providing a

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE FOR PRESIDENT DR NANGOLO MBUMBA



On behalf of the Board, Management and Staff of Namibia National Reinsurance Corporation (NamibRe), we join the Namibian Nation is extending our heartfelt congratulations to your excellency Dr Nangolo Mbumba as the 4th President of the Republic of Namibia. While the circumstances under which you ascend to this esteemed office are solemn, we confident in your ability to lead with strength, compassion and resilience during this challenging time.

Your dedication to serving your nation and the Namibian people has been evident throughout your career. As you step into this new role, know that you carry the hopes and aspirations of your fellow citizens, and we stand ready to support you in your efforts to steer Namibia towards a brighter future. May your tenure be marked by wisdom, courage, and compassion as you navigate the responsibilities and challenges of leadership.

Faniel Kisting Chairperson of the Board



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practical approach for navigating the current economic conditions.

For those currently selling their homes. the challenging market conditions mean that qualified buvers are harder to come bv. However, the advice to price homes appropriately and leverage the expertise of real estate professionals to navigate the selling process successfully. Trusting the guidance of these professionals may be crucial in securing a timely and successful sale within the current economic climate.

In conclusion, while the decision to maintain interest rates offers some stability, the challenges in the property market persist. Homeowners and potential buyers alike must stay vigilant, make informed financial decisions, and adapt their strategies based on the evolving economic landscape.

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Year in Review 2023



2024





FlyNamibia to reintroduce **Windhoek-Walvis Bay flights**

¶yNamibia is set to reintroduce flights between Windhoek and Walvis Bay as from 1 April.

The announcement follows FlyNamibia's decision in July last year to discontinue domestic flights to the coastal town, citing the economic unsustainability of the route despite several interventions.

Flights from the Eros Airport in Windhoek to Walvis Baywere launched in October, 2022.

In October the airline, however, launched flights connecting Windhoek and Walvis Bay to Cape Town four times a week.

The airline has also announced plans to increase its flight frequency between Windhoek and Ondangwa to six times a week as from 1 March.

FlyNamibia currently operates domestic routes from Eros Airport in Windhoek to Ondangwa, Rundu, Katima Mulilo, Oranjemund and now Lüderitz, as well as a regional route between Hosea Kutako International Airport and Cape Town International.





Hage G. Geingob is no more: reflections and valedictory note

By Jerome Mutumba

s the news of the harsh reality on the demise of President Hage G. Geingob sunk in me, I sat in a state of trance crowded with what I thought was suspension of disbelief that a towering figure has gone to rest in eternity.

Alas, the inevitable has befallen our country. The Namibian nation and the world at large have lost one of their finest citizens. The melody of Victor Thompson and Toluwanimee titled 'Mercy" echoed louder than my ears could bear. I have witnessed his mercy and I have felt his overwhelming mercy, how can I repay him for his goodness now that he is gone?

His passing triggered very fresh memories of the unfortunate demise of my dear mom, which took place during my tour of diplomatic duties when President Geingob appointed me to serve my great country Namibia, as Deputy Chief of Mission in Washington DC, a few years back. It is the recently gained sad experience of mourning a dear one, which enabled me to quickly bounce back and deal with the current national ordeal.

While still in shock I instantly summoned courage and inserted myself in a state of sanity to reflect





First date of publication: 31 January.2024

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

DBMNE0495 - CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT OF SUB-SEA DIAMOND RECOVERY SYSTEMS

SCOPE OF WORK:

Debmarine Namibia is looking for consultant(s) / research institutions to contribute to the development of new concepts for extracting marine diamonds from both soft sediment and coarse gravels. Qualified and interested partners will receive detailed geological information.

DOCUMENTS TO SURMIT:

- 1. Business profile.
- A demonstration of competencies (via appropriate CV's) for the overall provision of services,
- 3. Track record: comprehensive detail of concept development capability to find solutions for technical challenges, with timelines of contract period(s); reference people and contact numbers (where applicable).

CLOSING DATE: 22 March 2024.

Registered businesses interested in providing such services are requested to submit the documents

Email: Tenders@debmarine.com

Subject line: DBMNE0495 - CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT OF SUB-SEA DIAMOND RECOVERY SYSTEMS

ENQUIRIES:

The Procurement Officer

Tel: +264 61 297 8460 Email: Tenders@debmarine.com

Subject line: DBMNE0495 - CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT OF SUB-SEA DIAMOND RECOVERY SYSTEMS

DISCLAIMER:

Debmarine Namibia shall not be responsible for any costs incurred in the preparation and submission of a response to this tender and furthermore reserves the right not to extend this tender into any future tenders, negotiations and or engagements.

Debmarine Namibia shall not accept submissions rendered after the closing date and time.





soberly on my take away from a vantage point on the 'lives' of the great statesman, Dr Hage G. Geingob. 'Prez', or 'Hage' as His Excellency used to sign off on some of his SMS responses to me, a rare privilege accorded to a rural boy from Kanono Village in the Zambezi region. Our last SMS exchanges were around the time of his medical trip to the USA when I wished him God's favour. My association with Prez directly and by

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT, NETUMBO NANDI NDAITWAH



On behalf of the Namibia National Reinsurance Corporation (NamibRe) Board of Directors, Management and Staff, I wish to extend our warmest congratulations to you on your historic appointment as the first female Vice President of the Republic of Namibia. Your achievement is not only a significant milestone for gender equality, but also a testament to your remarkable leadership, dedication and vision.

Your ascent to this esteemed position is a source of immense pride for all Namibians, as it reflects our commitment to inclusivity and empowerment. We take this opportunity to affirm our commitment to support your efforts in building a brighter and more inclusive future for all Namibians. May your tenure as Vice President be marked by success, fulfillment and historic achievements.

Faniel Kisting Chairperson of the Board



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extension presented seminal moments. can only implore the younger generation after us, particularly those much younger, who will get to hear and learn of President Geingob in past tense and more so like stories in fairy tales, to draw inspiration from the following distinct summed key lessons I learned from him and about him.

1. President Hage had strong sense of purpose and resilience to keep His eyes on the bigger picture at all material times:

During my short stint on this planet, I could not resist observing how a mortal being could possess divine traits to develop such a powerful persona. President Hage G. Geingob had a very strong sense of purpose on earth and he understood that he was cut-out uniquely to change lives for the better. Indeed today, we bear witness to what he was able to impact positively during his service to our country and beyond, before after political and independence Namibia. The world dispensed both love and pain to Hage during his lifetime, but he bounced back and kept his eyes on the bigger picture throughout his trials and tribulations. He was very lofty in managing change in his personal and political lives. The notion of "who moved my Cheese?" in Dr Spencer Johnson's fable never permeated his life.

- 2. His power to forgive was his selfliberating trait: Despite some perception of short temper in some instances, simply because of his manners of articulation: His Excellency possessed unimaginable power to forgive, and remain warm and tolerant in adversity. I have observed how he was always able to embrace those who, in the normal course of business in his personal or political lives, should have gotten the boot. He could hardly write off people, even when that ought to have been the natural reaction owing to their betrayal or lack of lovalty to his cause. It was His ability to offload or manage anger that kept His life journey longer than an average citizen. Anyone who had the benefit of proximity to him can youch for that.
- 3. His Excellency had abundant genuine love, care for people and





country: People were central to his altruistic lives. He was a father; husband; uncle; grandparent; friend and mentor to the young and old. He loved people and he was able to cultivate deeper and meaningful relations with those who crossed his paths over the years. His humble demeanour in a gigantic body frame was a true hallmark of his being. He was so pure and kind. He was always willing to be vulnerable by placing himself at the mercy of people around him with no reservation. There were never staged moments during his days in office when he

To guard, and to gron OF HIS EXCELLENCY DR. HAGE G. It is with great sadness that we express our heartfelt condolences to Madam Monica Geingos the family, and the entire Namibian nation on the passing of His Excellency Dr. Hage G. Geingob May we all find comfort, strength and peace in the memory and legacy of our beloved and esteemed leader. The GIPF Family will profoundly remember President Geingob for having laid a solid foundation for an inclusive Namibian house. May his soul rest in eternal peace. Visit www.gipf.com.na (F (6) C In (8)

showed up in places of worship; entertainment areas and private homes to connect with the 'real sovereigns' as he called them. He was indeed a people's President, who sat, danced and mingled with the people of all socio- economic backgrounds. That is his real life testament. Loyalty to his people and patriotism to his country were his DNA.

4. He was visionary, strategic and with prophetic foresight: In the main, Hage was driven by his strategic intent in his dealings in the world of work and life in general. It was his ability to visualise things and talk them into existence that set him apart from an average citizen. He always harboured a noble dream of building a Namibian House. where citizens are treated fairly, equally, and allowed to flourish. Clinically, he helped create institutions of State that will underpin and carry Namibia's national democratic dispensation during moments of national turbulence and beyond. He truly believed in creating and bolstering institutions, systems and processes of good governance. Evidently, that manifested and carried our nation through during historic recent peaceful transition of power in Government



He was visionary, strategic and with prophetic foresight.

post his life. Namibia remains a beacon of hope and a shining example to the world in terms of political tranquility. Let us imbue President Geingob's spirit in us by internalising values espoused and emulate his journey, less travelled.

At the dawn of the new post-Geingob, let the era Namibian nation honour his legacy by celebrating His 'lives' in our homes; classrooms; sport fields; places of worship and at all points of contact with other beings. Mimic and perpetuate the lessons taught to appease his spirit and those of his forbearers. The nation remains indebted to President Geingob and those who made it possible for him to live and leave his mark posthumously. We can only repay him by adopting his values; what he stood for; his coined and practised cohesive national narrative. Inclusivity spells harmony and our nation must continue to pull together in the same direction.

So long a letter Prez and

mercy! May God have mercy with His soul. God bless the Republic of Namibia!

*Jerome Mutumba is a former diplomat.





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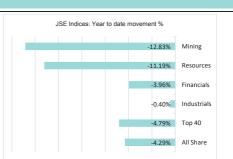
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