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Namibia in advanced talks with EIB for N\$10.3bn green hydrogen loan

WEDNESDAY 30 JULY 2025

MAIN STORY



Namibia in advanced talks with EIB for N\$10.3bn green hydrogen loan

The Namibia Green Hydrogen Programme (NGH2P) says it is in advanced discussions with the European Investment Bank (EIB) for a €500 million (approximately N\$10.3 billion) financing facility aimed at supporting infrastructure for green hydrogen and mineral beneficiation.

Crucial Dates

- Bank of Namibia Monetary Policy announcement date:
 - * 13 August 2025
 - * 15 October 2025
 - * 3 December 2025

According to the programme’s 2025 Mid-Year Review, the proposed loan carries favourable conditions, including a 3.5% interest rate and a five-year grace period.

“Advanced talks are underway with the European Investment Bank for a EUR500 million facility at 3.5% interest, with a five-year grace period,” the report stated.

The funding forms part of a broader strategy to reduce investment risk in Namibia’s green hydrogen sector.

Developed in partnership with the Ministry of Finance’s Economic Policy Department, the strategy includes the rollout of a globally competitive fiscal regime. Proposed incentives include VAT exemptions on imports, lower tariffs, and relaxed NAD currency account regulations, all aimed at reducing capital costs for developers, particularly those involved in mineral beneficiation.

Further support is expected through two additional funding instruments backed by the United Nations.

These include a €25 million (roughly N\$515.5 million) Mitigation Action Facility to support the technical and financial preparation of green industrial

hubs, and another facility focused on piloting green hydrogen and industrial projects.

“Namibia is progressing to the second phase after being shortlisted in the top twenty-three applications,” the report noted.

Earlier this year, Namibia secured funding from the Climate Investment Funds’ Industry Decarbonisation Programme, with support from the Ministry of Finance.

The approved facility is valued between N\$931 million (US\$ 50 million) and N\$4.66 billion (US\$250 million), with a low average interest rate of 1%.

It is backed by the Clean Technology Fund and is expected to attract a 3:1 capital match from additional financiers.

The NGH2P said efforts are also underway to develop green industrialisation and beneficiation hubs by upgrading key infrastructure such as ports, railways, desalination plants, power grids, and energy systems.

Engagements with several capital providers, including development finance institutions, are ongoing to secure the most effective financing packages.



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Ngurare approves Executive Director shake-up across ministries

Prime Minister Elijah Ngurare has approved the transfer and appointment of eight Executive Directors across seven ministries, effective 1 August 2025.

Nghidinua Daniel, currently Executive Director in the Ministry of Justice and

Labour Relations, moves to the Ministry of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security. Audrin Mathe, from the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology, takes over Daniel's position at Justice.



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Ben Nangombe has been transferred from the Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy to the Office of the Prime Minister: Cabinet Secretariat, where he will serve as Executive Director without accounting duties.

Erastus Haitengela has been appointed Executive Director and Accounting Officer for Vote 40 (Education) in the Ministry of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports and Culture. In the same ministry, Gerard Vries takes charge of Vote 27 (Sport, Youth and National Service).

In the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Land Reform, Ndiyakupi Nghituwamata has been appointed to oversee Vote 37 (Agriculture and Land Reform), while Teofilus Nghitila takes responsibility for Vote 38 (Water and Marine Resources).

Moses Pakote has been appointed as the new Accounting Officer in the Ministry of

Industries, Mines and Energy.

A temporary appointment will be made at the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology to replace Mathe. "I wish to take this opportunity to thank Mr Etienne Maritz for the excellent service rendered during his time as a public servant," said Secretary to the Cabinet Emilia Mkusa. Maritz will retire on 31 July 2025.

The changes follow a broader reshuffle in April 2025 that affected 18 Executive Director positions. Officials such as Gladice Pickering, Esther Kaapanda, Penda Ithindi and Titus Ndove have not been affected by the latest round.

The appointments and transfers were made on the recommendation of the Public Service Commission and in line with Sections 5(1) and 23(2)(ii) of the Public Service Act, 1995 (Act No. 13 of 1995).

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📅 06 August 2025 🕒 08H00 - 17H20 📍 Conference Tent

07H00 - 08H00 Conference Delegate Registration



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Conference Programme

 <p>George Botshwe President, Chamber of Mines Managing Director, Q&E Namibia, Nuvachob Gold Mine Member of Executive Committee to the Board of Inge Zwartkops Chairperson of Session 1 Panel Discussion: Driving Local Empowerment through Procurement and Economic Inclusion 09H00-09H20</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Welcoming Remarks</p>	 <p>Baronema Tseuse Chairperson, Health & Safety Committee, Director Sustainability and Business Transformation, Griquatse Chairman of Mines Safety Awards 09H00-09H20</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Safety Moment</p>	 <p>Morno Ross Lead Consultant, Mt Communitarians CC Moderator: Driving Local Empowerment through Procurement and Economic Inclusion 09H00-09H45 Moderator: Mining for Generations - 25 Years of Community Impact 09H00-09H45</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Session 1 - Moderator</p>	 <p>John Ross 1st Vice President, Chamber of Mines, Director and Country Manager, S&D&E Namibia Panel Discussion: Driving Local Empowerment through Procurement and Economic Inclusion 09H00-09H20</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Session 1 - Panelist</p>	 <p>Irvine Simatwa 2nd Vice President, Chamber of Mines, Executive Vice President, Swakop Uranium Panel Discussion: Driving Local Empowerment through Procurement and Economic Inclusion 09H00-09H20</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Session 1 - Panelist</p>
 <p>Dr. Gobi Schneider Director, Namibia Uranium Association Panel Discussion: Mining for Generations - 25 Years of Community Impact 09H00-09H45</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Session 1 - Panelist</p>	 <p>Dr. Chris Brown CEO, Namibia Chamber of Environment Panel Discussion: Mining for Generations - 25 Years of Community Impact 09H00-09H45</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Session 1 - Panelist</p>	 <p>Steve Galloway Independent Consultant, Chairperson - Independent Non-Executive Director, Essing Uranium Panel Discussion: Mining for Generations - 25 Years of Community Impact 09H00-09H45</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Session 1 - Panelist</p>	 <p>Angelique Peake Sector Head for Mining, Energy and Transition Fuels, B&B Namibia Presenting the Future: How Mining Can Deliver Net-zero, Development Promise 09H00-09H30</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Session 1 - Speaker</p>	 <p>John Ross 1st Vice President, Chamber of Mines, Director and Country Manager, S&D&E Namibia Chairperson of Session 2 09H00-09H00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Session 2 - Chair</p>
 <p>Willy Mertens Chief Executive Officer, Debonair Namibia Namibia's Diamond Future: Exploring Namibia managing the mine to jewellery through the diamond cycles 09H00-09H00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Session 2 - Speaker</p>	 <p>John Ross Director and Country Manager, S&D&E Namibia Ojshob Gold Mine: A Pioneer in Namibia's Mining Revolution 09H00-09H00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Session 2 - Speaker</p>	 <p>George Botshwe Managing Director, Q&E Namibia, Nuvachob Gold Mine Nuvachob Gold Mine Expansion: Unlocking Jobs, Innovation, and Economic Transformation 09H00-09H00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Session 2 - Speaker</p>	 <p>Weston Malongo CEO, Chamber of Mines Chairperson of Session 3 09H00-09H00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Session 3 - Chair</p>	 <p>Irvine Simatwa 2nd Vice President, Swakop Uranium Husab Mine: Building a world class, sustainable uranium community 09H00-09H00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Session 3 - Speaker</p>
 <p>Mike Woodborne COO, Namibia Marine Phosphate Building Namibia's Integrated Marine Phosphate Industry to Fuel Economic Diversification and Local Creation 09H00-09H00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Session 3 - Speaker</p>	 <p>Chris Jordison CEO, Mowat Mining Building Namibia's Integrated Marine Phosphate Industry to Fuel Economic Diversification and Value Creation 09H00-09H00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Session 3 - Speaker</p>	 <p>John Borchall CEO, Deep Yellow Limited The Transformative Impact of the Tsumeb Uranium Project 09H00-09H00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Session 3 - Speaker</p>	 <p>Werner Ewald Managing Director, Borweman Mining Resources Namibia George's Contribution to local Economic Growth 09H00-09H00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Session 3 - Speaker</p>	 <p>Irvine Simatwa 2nd Vice President, Chamber of Mines, Executive Vice President, Swakop Uranium Closing Remarks 09H00-09H00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Closing Remarks</p>



Namibia pins hopes on key CITES ruling over ivory stockpile

Namibia is banking on the upcoming 20th Conference of the Parties (CoP20) to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) for approval to legally sell its elephant ivory stockpile, following the submission of a formal proposal.

The summit, set to take place in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, from 24 November to 5 December 2025, will see Namibia's case for regulated ivory trade tabled before the international community.

The country currently holds an ivory stockpile weighing 92,386.52 kilograms, valued at an estimated N\$166 million.

According to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT), this stockpile includes ivory from natural elephant deaths and population management (44,840.78 kg), law enforcement seizures (46,117.79 kg), and ivory of undetermined origin (1,427.52 kg).

Rather than destroying its ivory, Namibia has taken



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the position that a tightly regulated trade in raw ivory—including whole tusks and fragments—through CITES-approved partners could deliver both conservation and economic benefits.

“Namibia does not believe in the destruction of its natural resources. These ivory stocks can instead generate vital revenue to fund wildlife conservation programmes and support rural communities living alongside elephants,” said MEFT Spokesperson Ndeshipanda Hamunyela in an interview with The Brief.

She added that all ivory in the government’s possession is believed to have originated within Namibia’s borders,

based on the country’s data and tracking systems.

The proposal underscores Namibia’s argument that effective anti-poaching measures, strong law enforcement, and community partnerships have kept elephant poaching at low levels—supporting its readiness for a legal, controlled ivory trade.

“Despite high demand for ivory in some parts of the world, Namibia has managed to maintain low poaching levels. This success strengthens our case for legal trade, as we can demonstrate effective management and enforcement,” Hamunyela said.

Namibia also holds a substantial rhino horn stockpile. Like the ivory, this is the result of both conservation and anti-poaching efforts.

The CITES submission has sparked debate among conservation groups. While some commend Namibia for pursuing a structured solution that could fund conservation, others warn that any legal trade could risk reigniting black market demand.

Still, Namibia argues that burning ivory achieves little in curbing illegal trade and wastes resources that could support biodiversity protection and rural livelihoods.

A decision at CoP20 could make Namibia one of the first African countries in over a decade to be granted legal permission to sell ivory under stringent international safeguards. Until then, the stockpile remains securely stored as the country awaits a ruling that could reshape its conservation funding model.

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Cabinet reviewing draft National Green Hydrogen Policy

The draft National Policy on Green Hydrogen and Derivatives, finalised by the Legal Business Unit of the Namibia Green Hydrogen Programme (NGH2P), is currently under Cabinet review, according to the programme's Green Hydrogen Mid-Year Review 2025.

The policy, which outlines

government's approach to developing a sustainable, safe and socially inclusive green hydrogen sector, was submitted in April 2025 to the Executive Director of the Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy (MIME) and the Directorate: Energy.

"The Legal Unit has finalised the draft National

Policy on Green Hydrogen and Derivatives, which was subsequently submitted to the Executive Director of MIME and the Directorate: Energy in April 2025,” the report stated.

The policy promotes environmental protection, economic diversification, social development and the safety of workers involved in hydrogen production and handling. It is expected to form the basis of Namibia’s forthcoming green hydrogen legislation.

The report further confirmed that MIME and the Legal Unit have initiated the procurement process for legislative drafting services. Once Cabinet provides its input, the drafting of legislation will begin, followed by broad public consultations.

“Thereafter, country-wide consultations on the policy and draft legislation will be undertaken,” the report read.

While the legislative framework is being

developed, the Legal Unit is applying relevant regulations under existing laws to guide sector activities and attract investment.

The Unit is also supporting the implementation of the Feasibility and Implementation Agreement (FIA) signed between the Government of the Republic of Namibia and Hyphen Hydrogen Energy (Pty) Ltd.

Between February and December 2024, it helped ensure that government met the agreement’s conditions precedent, unlocking N\$247 million (€12 million) in support for the feasibility phase running from December 2024 to December 2026.

“The Legal Unit is currently assessing the existing national ownership and governance model and requirements of use to determine the suitability of similar models and requirements of use in the green hydrogen sector,” the report noted.



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Communications during economic storms

By Rochelle Neidel

In recent months we have not only noticed the ongoing global tariff war that affects markets stability however back home we still have many SOE's struggling to get out of the trenches of historic debts, and some even dealing with historic maladministration practices that affect their balance sheets.

Amidst this? What role do we play as communicators and stakeholder specialists?

It is imperative that as communications professionals we realize that effective company communication strategies are the backbone of a productive and engaged workforce.

Define what success should look like for your teams before launching any communication initiative. Vague goals lead to ineffective messaging and wasted resources.

Our President Her Excellency Dr Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah in her last public address has called the public sector to order, encouraging that all public servants uphold excellent service delivery as a cornerstone to sustainable growth within public sphere specifically parastatals.

While this message still lingers the Anti-Graft agency the ACC has been reporting more and more corrupt practices within the top SOE's in the country. Could this be the beginning of a new era?

It is indeed true that many SOE's are crippled by systematic corrupt practices



Define what success should look like for your teams before launching any communication initiative.

that are harmful to the sustainable growth of the economy as a whole as every other year the government is forced to bail out companies as a mean to stay in business. How do we play a part at empowering the workforce to report maladministration before it becomes uncontrollable.

In times of crises, many employees and senior leaders turn to management to provide direction, leadership and strength. One necessary component of effective leadership during uncertain times is ensuring clear and consistent communication between the top brass and the workforce. As such, as communications professionals we must be able to clearly convey their corporate strategy and objectives effectively, and address employee concerns, while still being mindful of the business objectives at hand Honesty and transparency are imperative for encouraging trust among employees we should express the truth and refrain from using language that conveys otherwise.

Times of economic downturn and large-scale layoffs can be difficult

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periods for companies to navigate. It's essential for us to effectively convey our corporate strategy and objectives in order to maximize employee productivity and loyalty. By following these best practices, CEOs can help ensure their team is informed, motivated and empowered to make progress through difficult times and focus on the road ahead.

During a crisis, an employee's most trusted source of information is often their employer. For this reason, a leader's words and actions can have a major impact on the well-being of those they manage; they can help keep people safe, help them adjust and cope emotionally and help them put their experience into context and draw meaning from it.

But crises also present leaders with infinitely complicated challenges and no easy answers. Tough trade-offs abound, and with them, tough decisions about communicating complex issues to diverse audiences.

The good news is that the fundamental tools of effective communication still work. Define and point to long-term goals, listen to and understand your stakeholders, and create openings for dialogue. Be proactive. But don't stop there. Superior crisis communicators also do these five things well.

Distill meaning from chaos. The crisis will end. Help people make sense of all that has happened. Early on, be clear about what your organization will achieve during this crisis. Establish a clear vision, or mantra, for how the organization and its people will emerge. Explore ways to connect the disruption employees face to something bigger.

While it's important to shape a story of meaning for your organization, it's equally important to create a space where others can do the same for themselves. Ask people what conclusions they are drawing from this crisis and listen deeply.

** Rochelle Neidel is a communications professional with over 8 year media and communications experience. Currently employed at FISHCOR as the Marketing and liaison Officer.*



Namibia issues bird flu alert after outbreak in Botswana

Namibian veterinary authorities have issued a public alert following an outbreak of avian influenza in Botswana's Chobe District, which borders the Zambezi Region.

The Directorate of Veterinary Services confirmed that the outbreak was detected in backyard chickens and has prompted tighter disease control measures to protect local poultry and wildlife.

"Farmers and the general public are informed of the outbreak of avian influenza, commonly called bird flu, in Chobe District, in backyard chickens. Chobe District shares borders with Zambezi Region," said Designated Chief Veterinary Officer Johannes Shoopala.

Avian influenza is a highly contagious viral disease that affects domestic and wild birds. In some cases, it can also spread to mammals, including humans. The virus is

transmitted through faeces and respiratory secretions of infected birds and can be carried by contaminated feed, water, or equipment.

Farmers are urged to watch for signs of the disease such as sudden death, diarrhoea, swelling of the head, loss of appetite, coughing, or unusual behaviour in birds, and to report any suspected cases to the nearest state veterinary office without delay.

"Any suspected case must be reported immediately to the nearest state veterinary office. Poultry farmers are further advised to implement sound biosecurity management systems at their farms," Shoopala said.

Under the Animal Health Act of 2011, Namibia strictly regulates the import of birds and animal products. All birds must be tested for avian influenza and be accompanied by a veterinary import permit before entering the country.

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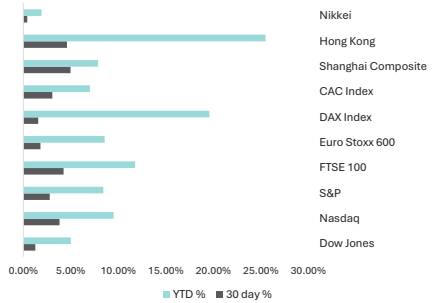
Commodities

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Platinum	1378.69
Palladium	1251.63
Silver	38.70
Uranium	70.70
Brent Crude	72.92
Iron Ore (in CNY)	790.50
Copper	9798.00
Natural Gas	3.03
Lithium	8.45

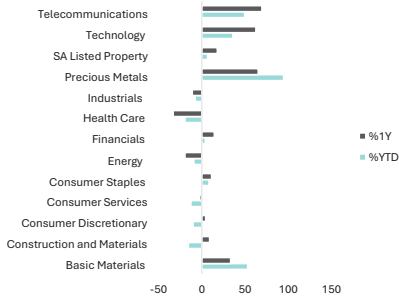
Currencies

USD/ZAR	17.93
EUR/ZAR	20.58
GBP/ZAR	23.83
USD/CNY	7.19
EUR/USD	1.15
GBP/USD	1.33
USD/JPY	148.99
Namibia CPI	3.70%
Namibia Repo Rate	6.75%
Namibia Prime Rate	10.50%

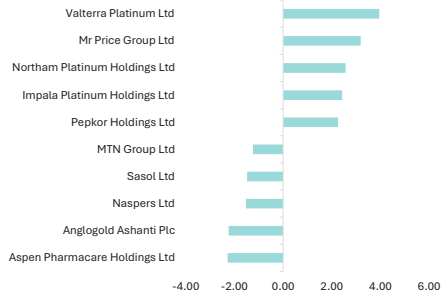
Global Indices in %



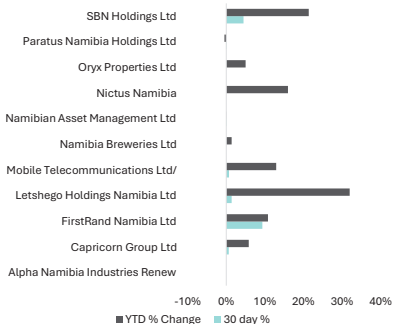
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