Shielding renewable energy's Achilles' heel with green baseload p. 06



NAMCOR appoints Victoria Sibeya as Acting MD p. 08



BUDGET Namibia's 2025/26 Budget Outlook p. 15



BRIEF

News Worth Knowing



Demshi secures telecoms license in Botswana, plans fibre rollout

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### **MAIN STORY**

## Demshi secures telecoms license in Botswana, plans fibre rollout

Tamibia-based Demshi Investment Holdings (Pty) Ltd, trading as DemshiTelco (Pty) Ltd in Botswana, has been awarded a Network Facilities Provider (NFP) telecommunications license, paving the way for the company to establish and operate network infrastructure in the country.

Demshi Investment Holdings Managing Director Werner Shilunga said the license will enable DemshiTelco to roll out and manage telecommunications infrastructure across Botswana.

"The NFP license is a provisional license for two years in which DemshiTelco must commence commercial operations. Once DemshiTelco commences with commercial operations, the license term gets extended to 20 years," Shilunga said.

DemshiTelco plans to deploy an Open Access Fibre Network, allowing Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to utilize its infrastructure to deliver internet services to end users.

"Our product focus is FTTH and FTTB, similar to the business model deployed in Namibia. The Fibre to the Home (FTTH) has not been extensively deployed in Botswana, with many towns still without FTTH services." he said.

The company is currently establishing offices in Gaborone, employing a skeleton team, and conducting extensive network



### Crucial Dates

- Bank of Namibia Monetary Policy announcement date:
  - \* 16 April 2025
  - \* 18 June 2025
  - \* 13 August 2025
  - \* 15 October 2025
  - \* 3 December 2025



Our product focus is FTTH and FTTB, similar to the business model deployed in Namibia. The Fibre to the Home (FTTH) has not been extensively deployed in Botswana, with many towns still without FTTH services.

surveying and planning before beginning Fibre deployment.

"We have an ambitious plan to start trenching for Fibre at the beginning of June 2025. The first phase rollout will be in Francistown and Gaborone before expanding to Maun, Jwaneng, Kanye, and Lobatse," Shilunga said. Looking ahead, Shilunga outlined an ambitious regional expansion strategy within the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and East Africa over the next five years.

"The aim is to build a truly Pan-African company with network infrastructures deployed in several African countries. Botswana is our first regional expansion, and hopefully, by the end of 2025, DemshiTelco will be in Zambia and Angola," he said.

Despite the milestone, Shilunga acknowledged funding as a significant hurdle to growth.

"While we navigate the funding challenges, our hope is that our government, maybe through the pension fund, comes up with structured financing geared to Namibian companies who want to expand to other countries," he said. "We need to create multinational companies, and the government can assist in that regard."

Shilunga also highlighted DemshiTelco's strategic relationship with Paratus, a telecoms company with a presence in over eight African countries.

"This strengthens the investment case and provides the necessary comfort to investors in DemshiTelco," he said.





## UK-based Big K acquires majority stake in Namibian charcoal producer

K-based company Big K Products has acquired a majority stake in Namibian charcoal producer Carbo Namibia, a move set to boost production capacity and generate economic benefits for local producers.

The investment is expected to inject N\$100 million into the local economy within a 150km radius of Grootfontein, while also

creating employment opportunities. Over the next three years, Carbo Namibia aims to increase its workforce by 100 employees, including a dedicated team for its briquette plant. Workers will undergo extensive training to meet European standards and regulations.

The expansion includes a N\$10 million enhancement of the dust extraction system,



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upgrades to the briquette and packaging plants, and an expansion of the sieving capability. The investment will enable Carbo Namibia's Grootfontein-based plant to align with European production standards and double its annual export capacity to approximately 20,000 tonnes of charcoal.

Carbo Namibia's founder and Managing Director, Hans Steyn, underscored the significance of financial stability and proper infrastructure in the charcoal industry, which is susceptible to external factors.

"Charcoal production is highly influenced

by weather conditions and market demand, making financial stability and proper infrastructure essential for maintaining a stable cash flow, whilst adhering to stringent European standards," Steyn said.

Negotiations for the share acquisition began in December 2023, marking a new phase of growth for Carbo Namibia. Steyn assured producers that full production would resume on 4 May, following temporary factory upgrades.

Moving forward, Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification will be a mandatory requirement for all charcoal producers. Carbo Namibia has experts available to assist producers in obtaining certification to meet international market demands.

Additionally, the company will enforce strict adherence to the European Union Deforestation

Regulation (EUDR), which aims to combat deforestation linked to products consumed within the EU market.

Steyn also highlighted the increasing demand for restaurant-grade charcoal, which commands a premium price compared to regular charcoal.

"Our goal is to encourage farmers to produce higher-quality charcoal, which has a growing international market," he stated.

Big K's team, which frequently visits Namibia, is set to return in May 2025 to assess engineering improvements on-site.

### VACANCY

The Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board (NIPDB) is looking for suitably qualified and experienced Namibian citizens to fill the following positions:

- Manager: Evaluation Retention and Aftercare
- · Investment Analyst (Energy) 18-month Fixed Term Contract

Interested candidates are invited to visit https://nipdb.com/vacancies/ for the requirements and guidelines of how to apply. All foreign qualifications must be evaluated by the Namibia Qualifications Authority (NQA).

The NIPDB is an equal opportunity employer and complies with the Affirmative Action Legislation. In line with the Affirmative Action (Employment) Act, No. 29 of 1998, suitably qualified persons with disabilities who meet the requirements are encouraged to apply. Please note that reference checks and competency assessments tests will be conducted and qualifications will be verified.

#### Remuneration:

The NIPDB offers market related remuneration packages commensurate with experience and qualifications.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. The NIPDB reserves the right to use additional/relevant information as criteria for shortlisting. The NIPDB regrets it cannot return documents.

Closing Date: 28 March 2025 @ 17:00 Enquiries: recruitment@nipdb.com

#### ABOUT NIPDB

The Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board (NIPDB) is mandated to promote and facilitate investment by foreign and Namibian investors, and coordinate MSME activities across all levers of the economy, with the aim of continuity up to personomic development and into creation.





## Shielding renewable energy's Achilles' heel with green baseload

By Ndishiilange Ndjoba

amibia stands at a crossroads of opportunity. Blessed with some of the world's most abundant renewable energy resources, the country has the potential to redefine Africa's energy landscape.

Yet, even as global sustainability efforts accelerate amid political headwinds and economic tides, there remains a critical gap in how renewable energy is perceived and implemented—not just in Namibia, but across the continent. Too often, the focus narrows to solar photovoltaics (PV) alone, overlooking the complementary role of wind and storage in building a resilient, and diversified grid.

Consider this: Namibia's wind resources rank among the planet's finest, second only to Chile in South America. Yet, while Germany—a nation with far inferior wind conditions—boasts an estimated 30,000 operational wind turbines, Namibia has only three. This disparity reveals a clear opportunity that Namibia can no longer afford to ignore. Solar energy dominates daytime production, but wind can seamlessly take over at night, especially in regions like Namibia's coastal and southern areas, where



Renewable energy cannot be siloed into a single technology.

consistent gusts are the norm. Pairing these resources with battery storage creates a trifecta: sun by day, wind by night and stored energy to bridge gaps. This approach not only addresses renewable energy's intermittency but also unlocks baseload reliability thus firming up energy supply—a necessity for economic growth and energy security.

A case in point is the Green Baseload Africa (GBA) project near the Sperrgebiet National Park. Here, a 6MW hybrid plant targeting the MSB, combines 11.67MWp of solar PV, 19.2MW of wind capacity (using specialised baseload optimised wind turbine generators), and 60MWh of battery energy storage system (BESS). What makes this initiative noteworthy is not just its technical design, but its groundwork: a secured 30-year land lease, bankable wind data validated over three years, and an Environmental and



Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) currently underway. Such projects exemplify how Namibia can leverage its natural endowments to move beyond piecemeal solar solutions and toward integrated systems that prioritise grid stability and affordability.

The broader lesson is clear. Renewable energy cannot be siloed into a single technology. This imperative is reinforced by policy frameworks like Namibia's National Integrated Resource Plan (NIRP), published in October 2022, and SWAPO's Manifesto Implementation Plan (SMIP). 2025 - 2030 which explicitly advocates for diversified, integrated energy systems (i.e. solar, wind and BESS). Namibia's path to energy independence-and its ability to export surplus power-hinges on diversifying its dispatchable and renewable portfolio. Hybrid plants that blend solar. wind and storage offer a blueprint for other nations grappling with similar challenges. For Namibia, the stakes are particularly high. With vast untapped resources and a pressing need to reduce reliance on imported electricity, the country has a unique chance to lead by example.

Critically, the transition to green baseload energy is not merely a technical endeavour. It demands rethinking the implementation of policy frameworks, fostering local expertise and ensuring community buy-in. Projects like GBA's initiative near the Sperrgebiet, which emphasises local procurement and long-term environmental stewardship, highlight the importance of balancing innovation with inclusivity. Investments

in local manufacturing—such as Windwise Turbines Namibia's efforts to establish a domestic wind turbine industry— could further amplify these benefits. By partnering with Windwise, GBA aims to catalyse skilled employment opportunities for Namibians, reduce dependence on costly imports, and foster Namibia's technological independence in particular and Africa's in general. Such initiatives not only anchor renewable energy infrastructure in our local economy but also position Namibia to become a hub for African supply chains by leveraging its existing logistics hub of southern Africa prowess.

As Africa's (and the globe's) energy demands rise, Namibia's renewable riches position it not just as a participant in the energy transition, but as a potential trailblazer.

The question is whether key stakeholders—government, investors, communities and the electricity supply industry as a whole—will seize this moment to look beyond solar panels and embrace a more holistic vision of sustainability. Just like our shining sun, the wind is already blowing-and will continue to blow for generations to come.

\* Ndishiilange Ndjoba is an Infrastructure Entrepreneur and founder of a number of businesses under TeSik Group. He served as a Partner at WCE Consulting Engineers, before entering the renewable energy sector. He is a GBA Co-founder, Director and interim Chief Executive Officer.



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### **NAMCOR appoints Victoria Sibeya as Acting MD**

he National Petroleum Corporation of Namibia (NAMCOR) has appointed its Executive for Upstream Exploration, Victoria Sibeya, as Acting Managing Director following the conclusion of Ebson Uanguta's tenure in the role.

NAMCOR Board Chairperson Florentia Amuenje welcomed Sibeya's appointment, expressing confidence in her leadership.

"We welcome Mrs Sibeya to the helm of NAMCOR and look forward to her continued contributions as we advance the corporation's strategic priorities," Amuenje said.

Sibeya, who joined NAMCOR in 2006, brings nearly two decades of experience in the oil and gas sector, both locally and internationally.

Upon her appointment, she expressed gratitude for the opportunity to lead the company during a critical period.

"It is an absolute honour to be entrusted with this responsibility. I look forward to leading NAMCOR during this pivotal period and, together with our dedicated team, navigating the challenges ahead. We remain committed to driving the company to even greater heights in service of our



mandate and our nation," she said.

Uanguta, who had served as Acting Managing Director for over a year, will return to his substantive role at the Bank of Namibia.

He had been appointed in an acting capacity following the suspension of former Managing Director Immanuel Mulunga.





# President Nandi-Ndaitwah appoints seven new Regional Governors

President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah has appointed seven new regional governors following vacancies left by some who were elected to Parliament and others who have retired.

Former Deputy Minister of Industrialisation and Trade, Verna Sinimbo, has been appointed as the Governor of Kavango-West, while former National Assembly member Julius Hamunyera Hambyuka will take charge as the Governor of Kavango-East.

Businessman Sacky Kathindi has been named Governor of Oshikoto, while former Popular Democratic Movement (PDM) parliamentarian Vipuakuje Muharukua will serve as the Governor of Kunene. John Julius //Khmuseb has been appointed as the Governor of Otjozondjupa, with City of Windhoek councillor Sam Shafiishuna Nujoma Jnr assuming the role of Governor of Khomas.

Riaan Charles McNab has been named Governor of Hardap.

President Nandi-Ndaitwah urged the newly appointed governors to deliver on their mandates and ensure efficient governance in their respective regions.

"A lack of implementation of government policies and programmes will not be accepted. I also do not want to hear the public complaining about issues for which you must provide solutions," she said

### Honoring Dr. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah's leadership

By Junias Erasmus

eadership is not merely about holding office: it is about vision, resilience, and an unwavering commitment to national progress. Namibia entered а historic era with the ascension of Her Excellency Dr. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah as the first female president, a milestone that embodies hope, transformation, and inclusive governance. Her leadership is a beacon of inspiration, particularly for young women and the youth, demonstrating that excellence, competence, and integrity pave the path to national service. In honoring her, we must go beyond words and embrace meaningful actions that reflect our collective appreciation and commitment to her leadership ideals.

Dr. Nandi-Ndaitwah's presidency symbolizes a paradigm shift in governance, emphasizing sustainability, strategic leadership, and economic independence. She understands that true national progress is achieved when institutions and public enterprises transcend dependency on government funding and cultivate a culture of self-sufficiency.

Under her leadership, Namibia is poised to redefine its economic landscape by fostering public enterprises that are not merely recipients of government resources but active contributors to national wealth creation.

Her vision promotes financial prudence, ethical governance, and operational efficiency, ensuring that public institutions become sustainable pillars of economic 66

Dr. Nandi-Ndaitwah's presidency symbolizes a paradigm shift in governance,

emphasizing sustainability, strategic leadership, and economic independence.

growth rather than perpetual liabilities.

A fitting tribute to such a transformative leader must be reflected in how we embrace her governance principles. Public institutions must internalize a culture of sustainability, innovation, and strategic planning.

The public sector, often seen as reliant on government allocations, must adopt a mindset of self-sufficiency, generating value and reinvesting in national priorities. This is not merely an economic necessity but a profound testament to Dr. Nandi-Ndaitwah's leadership philosophy: a Namibia that thrives on resilience, enterprise, and sustainable development.

Dr. Nandi-Ndaitwah's leadership is deeply rooted in understanding and accommodating the diverse needs of all Namibians. She champions inclusivity, ethical leadership, and strategic national development that uplifts every citizen.

Her administration prioritizes economic empowerment, youth development, and gender equality, ensuring that future generations inherit a nation built on strong values and boundless opportunities. Young women, in particular, find in her a role model, a leader who has shattered barriers and proven that leadership knows no gender but only competence and dedication.

To express gratitude, respect, and admiration for Dr. Nandi-Ndaitwah. Namibia must institutionalize leadership ideals. Establishing national recognition leadership programs, development initiatives. and public administration reforms that reflect her vision would serve as a lasting tribute to her legacy. Public enterprises must embrace corporate governance that fosters efficiency and accountability, ensuring that they generate revenue rather than deplete national resources. Her vision calls for a Namibia where leadership is about impact. where institutions thrive independently, and where every citizen is empowered to contribute meaningfully to national development.

The greatest act of appreciation is to

uphold the principles she embodies. By fostering a high-performance culture, strengthening governance systems, and ensuring that her policies are executed with precision and integrity, we not only honor Dr. Nandi-Ndaitwah's legacy but secure a prosperous future for Namibia. Her leadership is a clarion call for all citizens to rise, innovate, and build a self-sustaining nation where progress is not merely a government initiative but a collective responsibility. In doing so, we pay her the highest tribute, ensuring that her leadership transcends generations and remains a cornerstone of Namibia's national identity and development trajectory.

\*Junias Erasmus works in the Financial Sector. He is a Management Scientist and Operational Researcher, a Strategic Scholar & a Motivational Speaker. This article is written in his personal capacity. For inquiries, contact him at Junias99@gmail.com



## **Employers flag policy overlap risks in Labour and Justice Ministry merger**

he Namibian Employers Federation (NEF) has raised concerns over the merger of the Labour Ministry with the Justice Ministry, citing potential policy overlap issues.

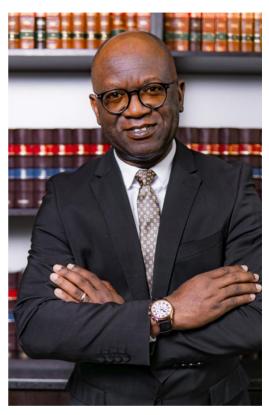
President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah merged the Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation with the Justice Ministry last week, appointing Fillemon Wise Emmanuel as minister, as part of her efforts to streamline the Cabinet.

The NEF acknowledged that consolidating these critical authorities could enhance procedural efficiency and potentially expedite legal and administrative processes, allowing for a more unified approach to policy-making and enforcement—benefiting both employers and employees.

However, the federation warned that the move is not without risks.

"The merger brings with it potential challenges. If not carefully monitored, it could lead to policy overlap, where the lines between labour law enforcement and criminal justice become blurred, 8) possibly resulting in jurisdictional confusion and enforcement delays. Additionally, the combined ministry may face resource strains, as budget allocations that previously supported separate entities might not be proportionately increased," the federation said.

NEF President Elia Shikongo called for



vigilance in managing the complexities the merger could introduce, particularly regarding policy overlap and resource allocation.

"The NEF is fully committed to collaborating with Minister Emmanuel and his team to navigate these challenges effectively," he said.







### Namibia approves 10,016 visa applications

amibia has approved 10,016 visa applications, with the Home Affairs Ministry continuing to receive more since the launch of the E-Visa-on-Arrival Portal and the Visa-on-Arrival application at the start of this month.

As part of Namibia's new visa regime, effective 1 April, e-visa and visa-on-arrival applications were introduced to streamline the process for nationals entering Namibia from countries that have not granted Namibia reciprocal visa exemptions.

In a move to harmonize the country's immigration policies, Cabinet has also approved the reciprocity of holiday visas, short-term employment permits, and visa-on-arrival fees.



Under the new terms, nationals from African Union countries will pay N\$1,200, while citizens of non-African Union countries will pay N\$1,600.

"This fee applies to holiday visas, shortterm employment permits, and visaon-arrival requests for adult travelers. Additionally, a fee will apply to minor children between the ages of 6 and 11," the ministry said.

Cabinet has further approved a fee exemption for all minor children under the age of six to assist families and facilitate easier travel.

"These children will not be charged any fees for holiday visas or visa-onarrival requests, reflecting Namibia's commitment to promoting familyfriendly travel experiences," the ministry announced.

Namibia has also introduced group bulk payments for online e-visa transactions, allowing service providers to pay up to N\$97,000 in a single transaction.

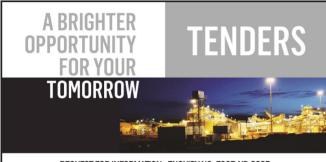
Meanwhile, the government has exempted diplomatic passport holders

from Germany and France from its new visa regime.

Cabinet approved the exemption, granting the Ministry of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety, and Security permission to waive visa requirements for diplomats from the two European nations.

"Additionally, holders of diplomatic and official passports from the Republic of Switzerland will also be exempted from visa requirements. This decision is a reciprocal gesture aimed at fostering closer ties with these nations," the ministry said.

The ministry expects these changes to boost tourism, strengthen diplomatic relations, and facilitate smoother travel to and from Namibia, benefiting both visitors and the Namibian economy.



REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: ENOUIRY NO. E007-ND-2025

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#### 2. SCOPE OF WORKS

Namdeb Diamond Corporation (Pty) Ltd hereby invites reputable and suitably qualified service providers that offer end-to-end solutions including site assessment, system design, procurement, installation, operations and maintenance, performance monitoring, and a variety of financing options like leases and power purchase agreements for on-grid solar power solutions to submit their company profile with track record of similar projects or solutions done, which must include appropriate references with contact details .

#### 3. SUBMISSIONS

The closing date and time for submissions is: 16h00 pm on Tuesday, 22 April 2025 (no late submissions will be accepted).





## Namibia's 2025/26 Budget Outlook: Risks, Realities, and Market Sentiment

By John-Morgan Bezuidenhoudt

n the intricate process of budget formulation and the balance between projected revenues, expenditures, and borrowing costs is often treated as a precise science.

However, beneath this veneer of rationality lies a far more unpredictable force: the psychology of markets. Keynes's concept of animal spirits reveals that economic decisions are rarely based solely on cold, hard facts - they are driven by instinct, emotion, and sometimes irrational exuberance. A country's budget, therefore, isn't just a matter of numbers; it's vulnerable to the whims of investor sentiment and global market psychology.

The sentiment around Namibia's fiscal health has been remarkably positive over the last 18 months as interest rates remained relatively low, the economy saw a boost in economic activity on the back of foreign direct investment and the budget has been successfully executed. However, this optimism must not be taken for granted.

When optimism turns to anxiety or speculative fervour overtakes caution, the cost of borrowing can soar, sending interest expenses spiralling beyond expectations.

This psychological turbulence, often lurking just below the surface of fiscal planning, can turn a seemingly stable budget into a financial minefield, where interest payments become the hidden drain on the fiscus.

66

More specifically, there exists a notable opportunity for market sentiment

to temper investor exuberance, particularly considering several critical factors.

More specifically, there exists a notable opportunity for market sentiment to temper investor exuberance, particularly considering several critical factors.

A revenue shock - where government revenues fall short of expectations coupled with the government's cashstrapped position, significantly can undermine investor confidence. is further exacerbated by a large local maturity profile, where substantial debt repayments loom on the horizon, creating additional fiscal pressure. Moreover, an ambitious spending plan, if perceived as overly optimistic or unsustainable given the current fiscal constraints, can heighten concerns about the government's ability to meet its financial obligations. These factors can combine to shift market sentiment from optimism to caution, leading investors to reassess risk, demand higher yields, and reduce their exposure to government debt.

all of which can drive borrowing costs higher than initially projected.

The Ministry of Finance (MoF) expects the deficit to grow to 4.6% of GDP in FY 25/26, resulting in a deficit of N\$ 12.8bn – N\$1.1bn above the mid-year estimate. This has cascaded down and resulted in a downward revision of the primary surplus from N\$1.3bn to N\$915mn (to 0.3% of GDP) in FY25/26.

Thereafter, the deficit is expected to decrease over the forecasted period moving down to 4.0% and 3.0% of GDP in the subsequent financial years. There is a risk associated with the widening deficit, mainly since revenue drivers (SACU Receipts and diamond mining related taxes) have come under immense pressure.

Furthermore, Namibia's deficit as a percentage of GDP is expected to print at similar levels to South Africa into FY25/26 although South Africa only expects GDP growth of 2% whereas Namibia expects GDP to grow at 4.5%.

This is illustrated by figure 1 and suggests that the Namibian government may be pressured into financing the deficit and paying more in interest expense.

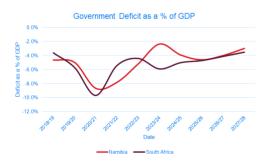


Figure 1: The government deficit as a % of GDP for Namibia and South Africa and the outlook up until FY27/28

Source: SARB, MoF, Namibia Statistics

Agency

The MoF expects interest expenditure to tick up to N\$13.7bn (14.82% of total revenue) in FY25/26.

This is an increase of 6.2% and is mainly driven by an anticipated increase in domestic interest payments (N\$10.4bn to N\$ 11.0bn). Conversely, the government anticipates its domestic borrowing costs to move down into FY25/26.

There is an evident large risk to the upside as the intuitive assumption behind lower interest rates is that either there will be higher levels of demand for local debt after rolling the Eurobonds or Namibian bonds should be considered to hold lower levels of credit and default risk when compared to South Africa.

The MoF ultimately expects the domestic effective interest rate to move down from 8.53% to 7.98%.

The total debt stock is expected to reach N\$172bn (62.0% of GDP) in FY25/26 with 85% of the debt stock expected to be local and the remaining foreign.

The financing requirement has remained inline with expectations amounting to N\$6.0bn. The sinking fund has been funded with SACU revenue and local bond issuances to execute on the redemption plan for the Eurobond.

The sinking fund has accumulated US\$463m over the years and an additional US\$162m is planned to be allocated this year.

That leaves US\$125m worth of domestic issuances expected from the domestic bond market.

Therefore, the government is expected to rely largely on domestic issuances to finance the deficit.

Domestic financing is expected to amount to N\$17.3bn in FY25/26, the

second largest domestic financing requirement in the country's history and will present the largest challenge for government finances.

Basic economic principles suggest that an increase in supply must be matched with demand for interest expense to remain the same – a very ambitious assumption from the ministry to keep interest rates flat or even see them reduce.

Finally, the reliance on SACU receipts is a risky endeavour given the state of geopolitical challenges and other revenue headwinds related to local diamond revenue.

We believe that financing needs will likely surprise to the upside.

In addition, a large amount of debt obligations is due this year and next, it is likely the government may face fiscal challenges.

Figure 2 illustrates the bank balances of government institutions that are held at the bank of Namibia (including redemption accounts for bond issuances).

The government's latest financial position stands at N\$7 billion, but the large repayment due in October is expected to significantly reduce their bank balances.

In 2021 the first Eurobond payment was executed and as a result the government bank balances experienced a sharp negative shock.

If the same is to be expected following this year's Eurobond redemption; lower government balances are to be expected and could force a slowdown in expenditure, which would reduce liquidity in the economy, delay payments to contractors and workers alike, and amplify the broader economic impact.

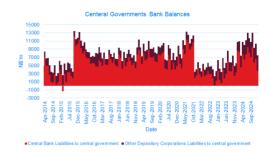


Figure 2: The Central Government's Bank Balances are low and will probably experience a negative shock following the redemption of the 2nd Eurobond

Source: Bank of Namibia

### **Concluding remarks**

James Carville famously said, "I used to think that if there was reincarnation, I wanted to come back as the President or the Pope or as a .400 baseball hitter. But now I would want to come back as the bond market. You can intimidate everybody". This highlights the immense power that the bond market holds over economies and governments.

Carville's statement reflects the profound influence that bond markets have in shaping fiscal policy, economic stability, and investor sentiment. In the context of Namibia's national budget, it will be interesting to understand whether investors have confidence in the government's ability to execute the budget as promised. A key factor that I will be watching over this financial year is the interest rates that bonds are refinanced at. The upcoming Eurobond repayment and reliance on domestic issuances could strain both liquidity and economic growth.

\*John-Morgan Bezuidenhoudt, Portfolio Manager: Momentum Investments



## NUST appoints Dr. Fillemon Nangolo as head of Lüderitz Campus

The Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST) has appointed Dr. Fillemon Nangolo as the Head of its Lüderitz Campus.

Dr. Nangolo, who brings a wealth of experience in academia, research, and industry, is expected to lead the campus in renewable energy, marine systems, and industry collaboration.

"I am honoured to lead the Lüderitz Campus at a time when the region is emerging as a key player in Namibia's economic landscape. My focus will be on strengthening industry partnerships, advancing research, and ensuring students are equipped with future-ready skills," he said.

His career spans over 18 years, during which he has held leadership positions at both NUST and the University of Namibia (UNAM).

He served as the Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology at UNAM, where he gained extensive knowledge of the academic landscape.

His international lecturing experience at J. E. Purkyne University in the Czech Republic, along with his industrial expertise at Chart Ferox, Inc., has further broadened his perspective on integrating research with real-world applications.

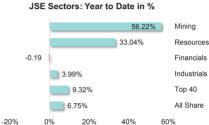
His research focuses on marine systems, renewable energy, water solutions, and industrial processes.

In his new role, Dr. Nangolo aims to position the Lüderitz Campus as a hub for innovation, particularly in the Blue Economy, renewable energy, and logistics sectors.

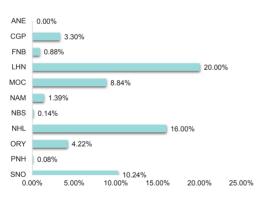


#### Commodities Spot Gold 3070.58 Platinum 980 47 Palladium 968.41 Silver 30.95 Uranium 64.45 Brent Crude 73.62 Iron Ore 95 78 9822.81 Copper Natural Gas 3 89 9.85 Lithium

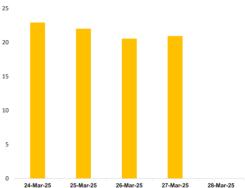




### NSX Local Stocks: Year to Date in %







### Global Indices: Year to Date in %

