

APPOINTMENT

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Evangelina Executive**

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THE

BRIEF

News Worth Knowing



NaCC weighs fresh action on pharmacy price-fixing probe

TUESDAY 07 APRIL 2026

MAIN STORY



NaCC weighs fresh action on pharmacy price-fixing probe

The Namibian Competition Commission (NaCC) is considering its next course of action after the Supreme Court ruled that its investigation into alleged price-fixing in the pharmaceutical sector was conducted unlawfully.

The apex court dismissed NaCC's appeal against a High Court judgment, finding that the Commission acted outside its legal mandate by allowing its secretary to initiate and run the probe into a 50% medicine

Crucial Dates

- **Bank of Namibia Monetary Policy announcement dates:**
 - * 22 April 2026
 - * 17 June 2026
 - * 12 August 2026
 - * 21 October 2026
 - * 02 December 2026
- **Namibia Oil and Gas Conference 18–21 August 2026 in Windhoek**

mark-up applied by pharmacies linked to the Pharmaceutical Association of Namibia (PAN).

The ruling has effectively halted the existing investigation, forcing the Commission to reassess how it proceeds with the case.

NaCC spokesperson Dina //Gowases told The Brief the matter has been referred back to the Commission, which is now reviewing its options in line with the Competition Act.

“The Commission respects the ruling of the Supreme Court of Namibia. We are currently reviewing the appropriate action to be taken regarding the allegations of price-fixing by PAN and its affiliates, and will pronounce ourselves once this process is concluded,” she said.

The court clarified that investigative powers cannot be delegated in the manner previously applied by NaCC, emphasising that statutory functions must be exercised within the framework set out in the Competition Act.

It further ruled that investigations are meant to gather information to inform potential court action, rather than determine culpability.

The case originates from a 2017 query by medical aid administrator Prosperity Health on whether a uniform 50% mark-up on medicines constituted price-fixing. In 2018, the Commission’s secretary issued a notice launching the investigation, a move later challenged in court by PAN and two pharmacies.

NaCC had argued that the delegation was necessary for efficiency, but the Supreme Court rejected this position, stating that internal administrative arrangements cannot override statutory requirements.

The allegations affect more than 200 pharmacies and relate to pricing practices spanning over 15 years under PAN’s mark-up framework. PAN represents over 80% of Namibia’s pharmacists.



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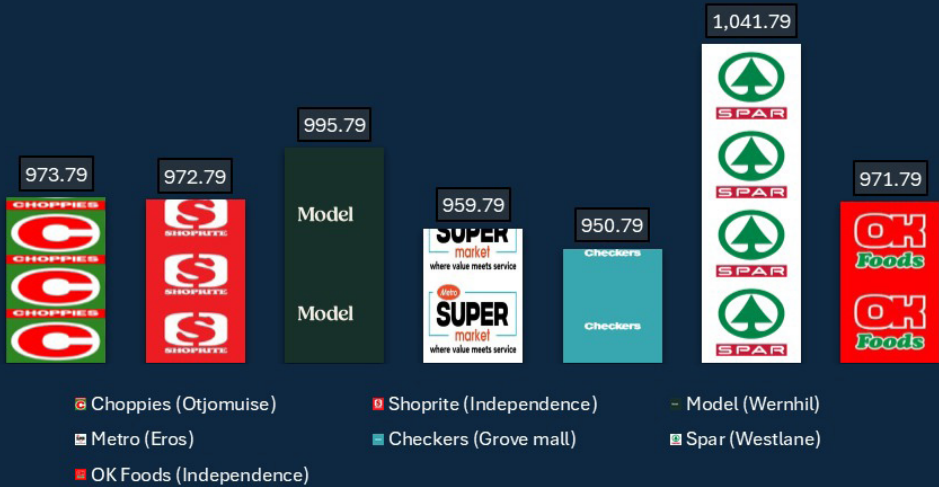
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RETAILERS GROCERY BASKET TOTAL COST (N\$) - MARCH 2026



Checkers Emerges as Most Affordable Grocery Retailer in March 2026

The March 2026 grocery basket analysis reveals Checkers (Grove Mall) as the most affordable retailer, with a total basket cost of N\$950.79. This was followed closely by Metro (Eros) at N\$959.79, indicating a narrow difference of just N\$9.00 between the two lowest-cost options.

At the upper end, Spar (Westlane) recorded the highest basket cost at N\$1,041.79, making it N\$91.00 more expensive than Checkers. Other retailers, including Shoprite (Independence) at N\$972.79, OK Foods (Independence) at N\$971.79, and Choppies (Otjomuise) at N\$973.79, were clustered within a tight range of around N\$2.00, suggesting broadly aligned pricing strategies. Model (Wernhil) stood slightly higher at N\$995.79, but still

below Spar.

Key Observations

Pricing differences across retailers were largely driven by variations in key categories, particularly staples, proteins, and fresh produce.

Staple items were a key differentiator. Checkers consistently offered the lowest or joint-lowest prices across several core items, including maize meal (N\$59.99) and sugar (N\$52.99, in line with Shoprite). Metro also remained competitive, particularly on cooking oil (N\$67.99) and pasta (N\$82.99). In contrast, Spar recorded notably higher prices for staples, with maize meal priced at N\$78.99, contributing significantly to its higher overall basket.

Protein products further reinforced the

pricing gap. Checkers offered the lowest prices for chicken (N\$79.99) and mince (N\$99.99), while Choppies was also competitive on chicken at N\$85.99. Other retailers, particularly Model and Spar, recorded higher prices in this category, with mince reaching N\$119.99 at Model and N\$113.99 at Spar, increasing their total basket costs.

Fresh produce showed more mixed pricing patterns. OK Foods stood out with the lowest price for onions (N\$18.99) and potatoes N\$17.99 (followed by Choppies (N\$18.99)). Metro recorded the lowest price for tomatoes (N\$29.99). Checkers, despite being the cheapest overall, had relatively higher prices for some fresh items, including onions (N\$39.99) and tomatoes (N\$39.99), indicating that its overall advantage is driven more by staples and proteins than fresh produce.

Household essentials, including washing powder, dishwashing liquid, and toiletries,

showed smaller price differences overall. However, Checkers and Metro generally maintained either the lowest or near-lowest prices across these items, contributing to their overall basket advantage. Spar, by comparison, tended to be priced at the upper end across several of these categories.

What’s in the basket?

Conclusion & Consumer Takeaway

The March 2026 grocery comparison highlights Checkers (Grove Mall) as the most cost-effective retailer, closely followed by Metro (Eros). Their advantage is largely driven by competitive pricing on core staples and protein products.

While most other retailers fall within a similar price range, Spar (Westlane) stands out as the most expensive, mainly due to higher prices on essential food items. The results suggest that even within a relatively tight pricing environment, differences in key categories can meaningfully influence total household spending.

Staples		Protein		Household & Cleaning	
White Bread	1 loaf	Chicken (Real Good/Kadhila)	1.5kg	Sunlight Washing Powder	2kg
Top Score Maize Meal	5kg	Mince	1kg	Sunlight Dishwashing Liquid	750ml
White Sugar (Marathon)	2.5kg			2 Ply Toilet Paper	9 rolls (350 sheets)
Tastic Rice	2kg				
Polana Macaroni Pasta	3kg	Fresh Produce		Personal Care	
Long Life Full Cream Milk (Nammilk)	1L	Onions	1kg	Soap	1 bar (175g)
Cooking Oil (Nola)	2L	Potatoes	1kg	Aquafresh Toothpaste	100ml
Wellingtons Tomato Sauce	750ml	Tomatoes	1kg		
Canned Pilchards (Lucky Star)	400g				
Corned Meat (Top One)	300g				
Rama Butter	500g				

FIMA and the future of financial security in Namibia: Reform, clarity, and the protection of retirement dignity

By Lot Ndamanomhata

Namibia stands on the brink of one of the most significant financial sector reforms since independence, as the Namibia Financial Institutions Supervisory Authority (NAMFISA) prepares to implement the Financial Institutions and Markets Act (FIMA), Act 2 of 2021.

After years of consultation, revision, and anticipation, the Act is now nearing full operationalisation, with final regulatory instruments being concluded by the Ministry of Justice.

At the centre of this transition lies a delicate balancing act: modernising the financial system while protecting the everyday realities of Namibians especially those approaching retirement.

FIMA is not a minor adjustment to existing laws; it is a sweeping consolidation of over a dozen pieces of legislation into a unified, modern regulatory framework. It seeks to bring coherence to the non-banking financial sector, which today holds approximately 70% of Namibia's financial assets valued at over N\$500 billion.

This includes pension funds, insurers, medical aid schemes, asset managers, and micro-lenders. Through this reform, Namibia is aligning itself with global best practices by strengthening governance standards, enhancing risk-based supervision, and placing consumer protection at the heart of financial regulation.

Yet, as with any transformative policy, the real measure of success lies not only



FIMA is not a minor adjustment to existing laws; it is a sweeping consolidation of over a dozen pieces of legislation into a unified, modern regulatory framework.

in regulatory sophistication but in human impact. Nowhere is this more evident than in the debate surrounding retirement benefits specifically, the preservation of lump sum cash payments.

In recent weeks, concern spread rapidly across the retirement fund industry following interpretations that FIMA could eliminate or severely restrict the ability of retirees to access their savings as lump sum payments.

For many Namibians, this was not just a technical concern it was a deeply personal one. Retirement is not an abstract financial concept; it is a moment of transition, often accompanied by immediate financial obligations such as settling debts, supporting extended family, securing housing, or investing in small businesses for post-retirement income.

The fear that retirees would be compelled to convert their entire life savings into monthly annuities sparked anxiety and

resistance. It raised a critical question: can financial reform truly be considered progressive if it limits financial flexibility at the very moment individuals need it most?

In response, NAMFISA moved swiftly to restore clarity and confidence. Following engagements with industry stakeholders, the authority confirmed that lump sum cash entitlements commonly referred to as commutation rules will remain unchanged upon the initial implementation of FIMA.

This means that retirees will continue to have the option to access a portion of their retirement benefits as a cash payout, including the well-established provision allowing one-third of pension benefits to be taken tax-free.

This clarification is more than a technical reassurance; it is a reaffirmation of a fundamental principle: financial systems must serve people, not the other way around.

The importance of preserving lump sum payments cannot be overstated. For many retirees, particularly in a developing economy like Namibia, access to immediate

capital at retirement is essential for financial stability.

Monthly annuities provide long-term income security, but they do not address urgent, one-off financial needs. A retiree may need to pay off a home loan, cover medical expenses, invest in income-generating activities, or support dependents.

Denying access to lump sum funds risks placing retirees in a position of financial rigidity at a time when flexibility is most critical.

Moreover, lump sum payments play a vital role in economic circulation. When retirees invest in small businesses, agriculture, or local enterprises, they contribute to job creation, community development, and broader economic resilience.

In this sense, retirement savings do not simply sustain individuals they can stimulate local economies.

At a societal level, the ability to access part of one's retirement savings reinforces dignity and autonomy. After decades of work and contribution, individuals expect

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and deserve the right to make decisions about their own financial futures.

Any reform that appears to limit this agency risks undermining public trust in the financial system itself.

This is not to suggest that the concerns driving stricter retirement regulations are unfounded. Longevity risk—the possibility of outliving one’s savings is a real and growing challenge. Policymakers are rightly concerned about ensuring that retirees do not exhaust their funds prematurely and fall into poverty later in life.

However, the solution lies not in removing choice altogether, but in striking a careful balance between protection and flexibility.

FIMA, in its broader vision, attempts to do just that. Beyond retirement reforms, it introduces stronger governance requirements for financial institutions, enhances transparency, and embeds consumer protection into the regulatory framework for the first time.

It also promotes financial inclusion through innovations such as micro-

insurance products, simplified contract language, reduced waiting periods for medical aid schemes, and cooling-off periods for consumers.

Together with the new NAMFISA Act of 2021, FIMA represents a shift towards a more responsive, modern, and resilient financial system—one that is better equipped to manage risk while expanding access to financial services.

However, the successful implementation of FIMA will depend not only on legal readiness but on continued engagement, clear communication, and public trust. The recent episode around lump sum payments underscores the importance of transparency in reform processes. In an age of rapid information flow, uncertainty can quickly erode confidence, while timely clarification can restore stability.

As Namibia moves towards the full implementation of FIMA, one message stands clear: reform must never lose sight of the people it is designed to serve. The preservation of lump sum retirement

benefits is not merely a policy detail, it is a recognition of lived realities, economic necessity, and human dignity.

In the end, the true strength of Namibia’s financial system will not be measured only by the robustness of its regulations, but by its ability to empower citizens at every stage of their financial journey, including the moment they step into retirement.

**Lot Ndamanomhata is from Ekoka. This article reflects his views and write entirely in his personal capacity.*

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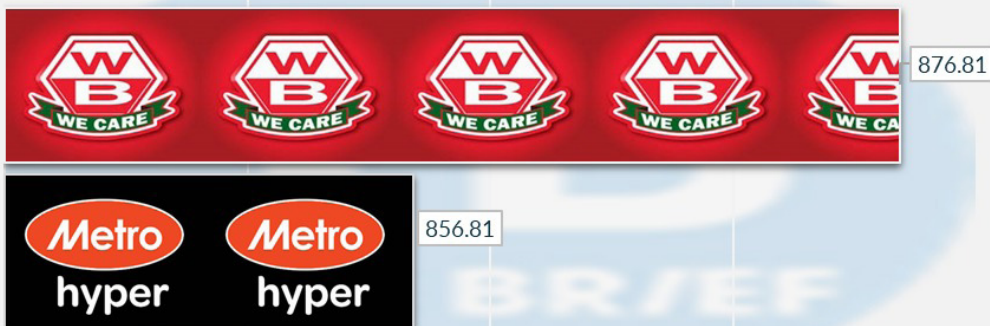


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HYPER STORES TOTAL BASKET COST (N\$) - MARCH 2026



■ Woermann Brock (Otjomuise) ■ Metro (Kleine Kuppe)



Metro leads as lowest-cost hyper store in March 2026

Metro emerged as the more affordable hyper store in March 2026, with a total basket cost of N\$856.81 compared to N\$876.81 at Woermann Brock (Otjomuise). This reflects a modest price difference of N\$20.00, not a significant gap, but enough to give Metro a slight edge, with prices between the two stores remaining fairly close overall.

While Metro was cheaper overall, Woermann Brock’s slightly higher basket cost was mainly driven by higher prices across several staple items.

Key Observations

1. Staples and Core Food Items

Metro offered more competitive pricing across key staple goods:

- Maize meal (5kg): Cheaper at Metro (N\$61.99 vs N\$67.99)
- Cooking oil (2L): Lower at Metro by N\$5.00
- Rice (2kg) and milk (1L): Both cheaper at Metro
- Prices for white sugar were identical at both retailers

2. Protein and Fresh Produce

- Chicken (1.5kg) and eggs (18 medium) were both more affordable at Metro, with eggs showing a difference of N\$10.00.
- Fresh produce (onions, potatoes) followed a similar trend, with Metro

slightly cheaper.

- Tomatoes were the only fresh item cheaper at Woermann Brock.

3. Household and Cleaning Products

Metro generally maintained lower prices across household essentials:

- Washing powder, dishwashing liquid, toothpaste, and soap were all cheaper at Metro.

- However, toilet paper (Twinsaver 9 rolls) stood out as significantly cheaper at Woermann Brock (N\$109.99 vs N\$139.99), partially offsetting Metro's overall advantage.

4. Packaged and Processed Foods

- Items such as macaroni pasta, tomato sauce, and butter were a bit cheaper at Metro.

- Price differences in this category were relatively small, suggesting strong competition between retailers.

Conclusion & Consumer Takeaway

The March 2026 basket analysis highlights Metro (Kleine Kuppe) as the most cost-effective hyper store overall, offering lower prices across the majority of essential goods. While Woermann Brock (Otjomuise) remains competitive, particularly in selected items like toilet paper and fresh tomatoes, its higher pricing on key staples and proteins contributed to a slightly more expensive basket.

Consumers may benefit from selective shopping across stores, particularly for high-value items where price differences are more pronounced.

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Momentum Metropolitan Namibia appoints Evangelina Nailenge Executive: Retail Distribution

Momentum Metropolitan Namibia has appointed Evangelina Nailenge as Executive: Retail Distribution, with effect from March 2026.

The company said Nailenge will lead the development and execution of distribution strategies aimed at placing clients at the centre of its operations, while expanding access to financial solutions through a strengthened network of advisers and brokers.

The appointment comes as the group seeks to enhance client experience and improve financial outcomes for customers across Namibia.

Nailenge brings more than 20 years of experience in the financial sector, including over a decade in executive leadership roles.

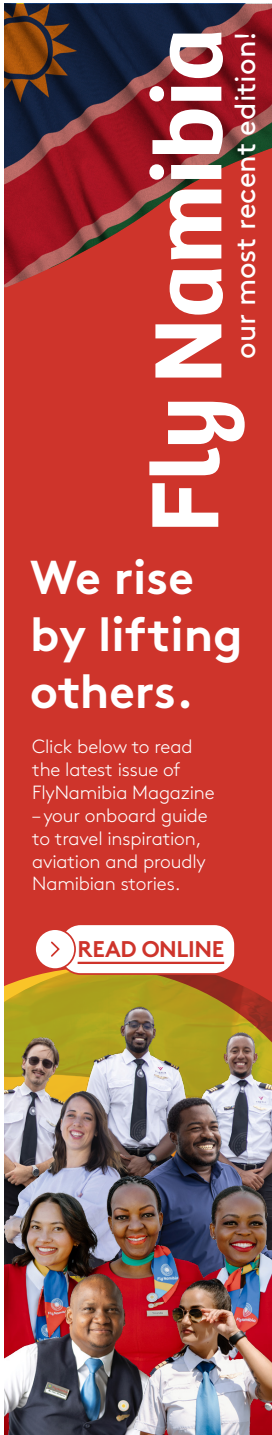
She previously served as Managing Director of Momentum Investments Namibia, where she oversaw asset management, wealth and collective investment schemes.

During her tenure, she implemented a turnaround strategy that resulted in growth in assets under management and administration, alongside improvements in client retention, service delivery and profitability.

She has also served as a non-executive director on several public and private sector



A promotional banner for 'The Brief' with a light blue and white background. It features a large QR code in the center. To the left of the QR code is a 'Finance' icon (a blue circle with a white bar chart) and the word 'Finance' above it. To the right is a 'Business' icon (a blue circle with a white bar chart) and the word 'Business' above it. Below the QR code is the text 'for Daily Namibian News' with a WhatsApp icon. On the far left, it says 'SCAN HERE' in large blue letters. Below that are social media icons for Facebook (@thebrieflive), LinkedIn (@thebrieflive.nam), and Twitter (@TheBriefLive). At the bottom left, there is a PDF icon and the text 'Daily PDF version sent via email'. On the far right, it says 'THE BR/EF News Worth Knowing' and 'TO FOLLOW OUR WHATSAPP CHANNEL' in large blue letters.



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Nailenge brings more than 20 years of experience in the financial sector, including over a decade in executive leadership roles.

boards, providing oversight on governance, strategy and stakeholder engagement.

Nailenge holds a Master of Commerce degree with distinction and an honours degree in commerce, both specialising in money and banking, as well as an undergraduate degree in economics. She has also completed various leadership development programmes.

Momentum Metropolitan Namibia Group Chief Executive Officer Sakaria Nghikembua said Nailenge's appointment reflects the company's focus on strengthening its client-centred distribution model.

"Evangelina brings extensive leadership experience and a deep understanding of the Namibian market. At the core

of our strategy is the belief that every Namibian should have access to quality financial solutions that protect and grow their assets," Nghikembua said.

He added that her leadership would support efforts to improve service delivery while driving business growth.

Nailenge said she was committed to building a distribution model that strengthens trust and broadens access to financial services.

"Namibians work hard for their financial futures and deserve solutions that meet both their current and long-term needs. I look forward to working with our teams and partners to expand access to sustainable financial solutions for individuals and their families," she said.

Economic	Quantity	Eros Meat Market	Klein Windhoek Slagtery	Ready Bites (Southern Industry)	Elmo's Butcher (Khomasdal)	Hartlief	Meatcor
Liver	p/kg	87.00	68.89	65.90	79.85	69.99	38.50
Beef Stew	p/kg	101.00	92.89	95.00	89.95	118.99	72.50
Ground Beef mince	p/kg	162.00	115.89	89.00	103.95	117.99	79.80
Homemade Boerewors	p/kg	147.00	66.00	110.71	109.95	125.99	82.25
Brisket	p/kg	128.00	110.80	116.00	92.95	130.99	77.50
Total		625.00	454.47	476.61	476.65	563.95	350.55

Meatco holds its price lead in March

A-Grade Meat Analysis (Premium Cuts) Meatco continues to stand out in March as the most affordable option for A-Grade meats, with a total basket cost of N\$443.93. The gap between Meatco and the rest of the market remains significant, with the next cheapest option, Elmo’s Butcher, coming in at N\$761.79. This shows a clear divide between the lowest-cost supplier and the rest of the market.

At the higher end, Eros Meat Market, Klein Windhoek Slagtery, and Hartlief continue to cluster around the N\$1,000 mark and above. Hartlief, in particular, remains one of the more expensive options, especially for steak cuts such as rump and sirloin.

Looking at individual items, steak cuts continue to drive most of the price differences across suppliers. T-Bone prices remain widely spread, showing little sign of narrowing between stores. Overall, however, month-on-month movements are relatively small, suggesting that prices in the premium

segment have remained fairly stable.

Economic Meat Analysis (Affordable Cuts)

In the Economic category, Meatco once again leads on affordability, with a total basket cost of N\$350.55. The gap between Meatco and other suppliers has widened slightly, strengthening its position as the go-to option for cost-conscious consumers.

The middle of the market remains tightly contested. Klein Windhoek Slagtery, Ready Bites, and Elmo’s Butcher are all closely priced, indicating strong competition in this segment. Despite this, Eros Meat Market and Hartlief continue to sit at the higher end, particularly for staple items such as mince and stew meat.

At a product level, prices for everyday cuts like liver and stew meat remain relatively stable across retailers. In contrast, items such as mince and boerewors still show more noticeable variation, likely reflecting differences in processing and product mix. Compared to A-Grade meats, overall price differences

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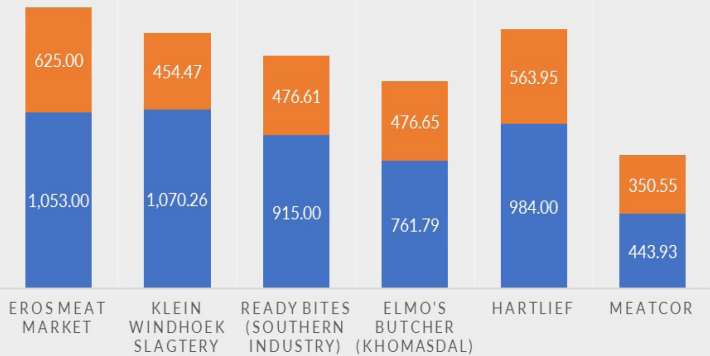
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BUTCHERIES TOTAL BASKET COST (N\$) - MARCH 2026



A-Grade Economic



in this category are smaller and more contained.

Conclusion & Consumer Takeaway

March pricing largely mirrors February, with no major shifts in market positioning. Meatco continues to dominate on price across both categories, while other retailers maintain their relative positions. The gap between premium and budget suppliers remains evident, particularly in A-Grade cuts

where differences are most pronounced.

For shoppers, the strategy remains straightforward, where you buy matters. Meatco continues to offer the best overall value, but those willing to shop around can stretch their budgets even further.

The biggest opportunities for savings are still found in premium cuts, while everyday items remain more evenly priced across stores.

A-Grade	Quantity	Eros Meat Market	Klein Windhoek Slaughterery	Ready Bites (Southern Industry)	Elmo's Butcher (Khomasdal)	Hartlief	Meatco
A Grade T-Bone	p/kg	206.00	205.75	249.00	120.99	197.99	79.13
Lean Mince	p/kg	161.00	126.39	90.00	104.95	119.99	80.80
A-Grade Rump steak	p/kg	226.00	274.89	251.00	190.95	289.04	100.00
A-Grade Sirloin Steak	p/kg	236.00	282.64	143.00	189.95	215.99	104.00
A-Grade Oxtail	p/kg	224.00	180.59	182.00	154.95	160.99	80.00
Total		1,053.00	1,070.26	915.00	761.79	984.00	443.93

Any treatment plan for Namibia's economic syndrome – 36 years of independence

By Tio Nakasole

In the thirty-six years of independence, Namibia is known for its overreliance on its mineral resource wealth, procyclicality of macroeconomic policy, unemployment and large income disparities.

Challengingly, Namibia is the second-highest inequal society (Gini index at 59.1) in Africa. Inequality is visible especially between urban centres: Windhoek, Swakopmund and Walvis Bay and the rural areas, where poverty rates exceed 45%. In addition, high unemployment (rate 36.9%) remains too high, especially in the sparsely populated regions.

Based on the Namibia Statistics Agency's (NSA) 2023 Labour Force Report, regions such as Kavango West and East have the highest rates of unemployment, followed by Ohangwena and lastly the Kunene, Omusati and Oshana regions.

Apart from being highly populated, these regions have a rural majority of the population and are, moreover, sparsely populated with limited industrial or formal employment opportunities, contributing to very high joblessness.

In part of these regions, agricultural activities, such as subsistence farming, are the primary source of livelihood. However, they become prone to climate change (drought or flood), consequently threatening food security.

The good news now is that Namibia is now at a critical juncture of its nascent developments phase which can either transform it or break it further. The country's



According to the Labour Force Survey, approximately 67% of the population lived in rural areas in 2001, declined to 57% in 2011 and plummeted further to 49.6% in 2023.

recent offshore oil and gas discovery, green hydrogen foreign direct inflows, and natural resources such as diamond and uranium production position Namibia will add more flavours to it.

Overarching Challenges

The historical binding constraints that have been preventing Namibia from developing new engines of growth have been different in nature, hence demands a corresponding treatment.

As a reclassified lower middle-income economy effective 1 July 2025 from an upper middle-income economy, Namibia has been experiencing lower levels of development outcomes in proportion to its population growth.

Regionally, compared with its peers, the country grapples with high rural-urban migration rates as many individuals, including small-scale entrepreneurs and

informal traders, move to urban areas in search of sustainable markets, jobs, education, and better services.

According to the Labour Force Survey, approximately 67% of the population lived in rural areas in 2001, declined to 57% in 2011 and plummeted further to 49.6% in 2023. Unquestionably, that paradigm shift in rural–urban migration has intensified over the past two decades.

In addition, access to finance and land are also active constraints the country face. The latent signals for access to finance are particularly of note, given the very low levels of domestic savings, which may further dependence on FDI to finance productive activities.

Moreover, the country has a significant shortage of productive know-how particularly in the energy sector, which manifests in low levels of economic complexity, economic complexity outlook and social transformation.

Lastly, Namibia has very limited opportunities to diversity into, and these opportunities have a limited strategic value. Most of Namibian export products lie at the periphery of the product space and distant from each other, which leaves very few potential nearby jumps.

Moreover, Namibia has a relatively low Economic Complexity Index -0.58, (95th) in global rankings, indicating the export basket is dominated by raw or low-complexity products like minerals, metals, and primary commodities rather than sophisticated manufactured goods.

This leaves the wider economy highly exposed to fluctuations in international commodity prices, compounding development constraints. In addition, an economy that is trapped in primary production like agriculture, mining you are trapped in something called market prices.

But an economy that is manufacturing based for example, their prices are not

dictated by market price, they determine how much they can sell, because their products are differentiated.

Policy Renewal

Namibia's development priorities are undergirded by several national policies that seek to improve the status quo. Among others is the active National Development Plan Six (NDP6), which provided a blueprint for developing and transforming Namibia with a focus on economic growth, transformation and resilience; human development and community resilience; Environmental sustainability and effective governance and public service delivery.

Equally, outstanding socioeconomic bills such as the National Equitable Economic Empowerment Bill and the Namibia Investment Promotion and Facilitation Bill would, if promulgated on a balance of mutual benefit that attract investors while improving communities, will have a wide-reaching impact on the Namibian sectors.

As these pieces of legislation would likely to infuse more Namibian ownership and local content requirements on certain sectors, ensuring organic growth.

Modus Operandi

Going forward, the modus operandi for Namibia should be about how to engineer a sustained growth acceleration that is inclusive in nature within the context of fiscal consolidation.

Another, part of the solution to rural-urban migration is by driving investment that are not only extractive but that stay with the communities, and having microeconomic policies enforced that encourage domestic investors particularly in small-scale farming, small and medium enterprises, ecotourism and creative industries. China, Malaysia, Thailand and Costa Rica are some of the handful of examples. Once the potential of Namibia's rural areas is developed and harnessed in terms of agriculture, ecotourism and creative industries, for instance, that

could offset the migration crisis and in tandem open up untapped opportunities which would amplify the sine qua non of food production, job creation and sustainable and inclusive growth.

With regard to traditional engines of growth such as natural resources, the slowdown in investment was not specific to Namibia but rather a worldwide phenomenon.

The drop in commodity prices also generated a significant decline in the flows of direct investment to the sector worldwide.

Indubitably, commodity prices are known to be cyclical, and in particular those that are more relevant to Namibia – diamonds, lead, zinc and gold– have already started to show signs of recovery, particularly uranium and gold.



In order to take advantage of new investments opportunities, investment promotion efforts by NIPDB shall continue but target ‘efficiency-seeking’ investors, which tend to take advantage of a competitive factor in the country (efficient labour force, access to international financial markets, infrastructure) to produce and export to foreign markets.

Through this strategic lens, investment becomes not only a catalyst for growth, but also a tool for job creation, enterprise development, and domestic long-term prosperity.

In conclusion, Namibia’s economy over the years has a footprint of being resilient, however it should find its coherent treatment plan of a growth that is significant.

That should cut across institutional strengthening, capacity building, close monitoring of fiscal developments, decentralisation policy revitalisation and implementation, and regular policy dialogue on both micro- and macroeconomic management.

**Tio Nakasole, Analyst at Monasa Advisory and Associates. His insights draw from his experience in economic and policy analysis. The views expressed do not represent those of his employer. - theoerastus@gmail.com*

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Topic: The Pursuit of Happiness
Entrance Free (tickets available at Country Club)
Pledges are encouraged and funds will be used to start the John Akapandi Endjala Foundation.

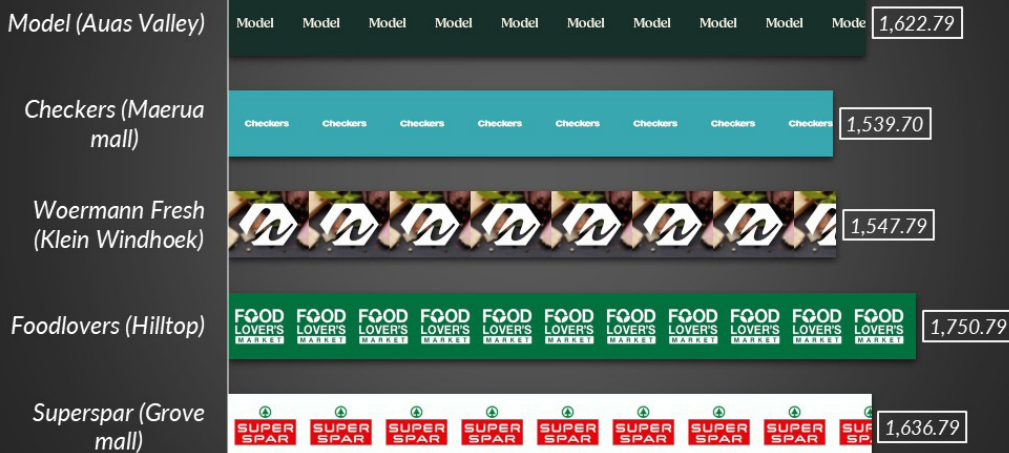
Venue: Country Club | Time: 18h00

Account Details:
Account Number: 8031211890 | Account Type: CHK | Bank: Bank Windhoek Ltd. | Branch: Kudu (WHK) | Branch Code: 482-172 | Swift Code: BWLINANX

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04 JUNE 2026

PREMIUM STORES TOTAL BASKET COST (N\$) - MARCH 2026



Checkers Offers Best Value in Premium Store Basket – March 2026

In the premium store category, Checkers (Maerua Mall) emerged as the most affordable option in March 2026, with a total basket cost of N\$1,539.70. This was closely followed by Woermann Fresh (Klein Windhoek) at N\$1,547.79.

At the upper end, Food Lovers Market (Hilltop) recorded the highest basket cost at N\$1,750.79, while Superspar (Grove Mall) and Model (Auas Valley) fell in between at N\$1,636.79 and N\$1,622.79, respectively.

The gap of just over N\$200 between the cheapest and most expensive stores highlights noticeable price variation within the premium segment, particularly driven by differences in fresh produce and meat pricing.

Key Findings

1. Overall Cost Positioning

Checkers led on overall affordability, narrowly outperforming Woermann Fresh. Food Lovers Market (Hilltop) stood out as the most expensive option, largely driven by significantly higher prices on selected items such as sirloin steak and fresh produce.

2. Fresh Produce Trends

Fresh produce prices varied considerably:

- Superspar offered the most competitive pricing on tomatoes, onions, and apples.
- Checkers stood out for lettuce and remained competitive across several fresh items.
- Food Lovers Market, despite its fresh

produce positioning, recorded some of the highest prices, particularly for tomatoes and onions.

3. Protein and Meat

- Checkers and Woermann Fresh offered the lowest prices for chicken breasts.
- Checkers also recorded the most competitive price for sirloin steak, significantly undercutting competitors.
- Food Lovers Market was the most expensive in this category, especially for steak, which contributed heavily to its higher overall basket cost.

4. Pantry and Household Essentials

- Woermann Fresh stood out for value in key household items, including toilet paper and dishwashing liquid.
- Checkers maintained competitive pricing across staples such as rice, olive oil, and sugar.
- Superspar generally trended higher across pantry items, contributing to its higher total basket cost.

Cost of a Simple Salad in Premium Stores

If a consumer were to put together a simple fresh salad in March using lettuce, tomatoes, cucumber, and onions, Superspar would be the most cost-effective option overall due to its lower pricing on tomatoes and onions.

However, Checkers remains highly competitive, particularly with the lowest price for lettuce, while Food Lovers Market, despite its branding around fresh produce, turns out to be one of the more expensive options for these items in March.

This highlights an interesting trend: stores positioned as fresh produce specialists are not always the

cheapest for everyday fresh essentials, reinforcing the importance of price comparison even within premium retail segments.

Conclusion & Consumer Takeaway

The March 2026 premium basket analysis shows that Checkers (Maerua Mall) offers the best overall value, supported by competitive pricing across both fresh and non-perishable items. Woermann Fresh follows closely, providing strong competition, particularly in household goods.

While Superspar and Food Lovers Market remain key players in the premium segment, their higher pricing on several staple and protein items resulted in a more expensive overall basket.

Overall, the premium retail segment remains competitive, but price differences on high-value items can significantly impact total basket costs, making targeted shopping an effective strategy for consumers.

NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Junior Baiano Industrial Consultants cc hereby gives notice to all potentially interested and Affected Parties (&APs) that an application will be made to Environmental Commissioner in terms of the Environmental Management Act (No 7 of 2007) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (GN 30 of 6 February 2012) for the following activity:

Project Title and description: EIA for the Proposed transportation, handling and storage of Hazardous Chemical Substances, to and from Windhoek, Rosh Pinah and Walvisbay depots

Project Location: **Onelogix Hardcore Logistics Depots**
Rosh Pinah - 159 Kurper Street, Walvisbay – 2426 Moses Garoeb Street, Walvisbay, Windhoek – Plot 31 Emmerentia, Brakwater

Proponent: Onelogix Hardcore Logistics Nam (Pty) Ltd

I&Ps are invited to register with the consultant and give their comments and concerns in writing. Please take note of the following:

PUBLIC MEETING
Windhoek - Date: 18 April 2026
- Venue: Onelogix Depot, Plot 31 Emmerentia, Brakwater
- Time: 11h00

Walvisbay - Date: 24 April 2026
- Venue: Onelogix Depot, 2426 Moses Garoeb Street
- Time: 15h00

Rosh Pinah - Date: 29 April 2026
- Venue: Onelogix Depot, 159 Kurper Street,
- Time: 11h00

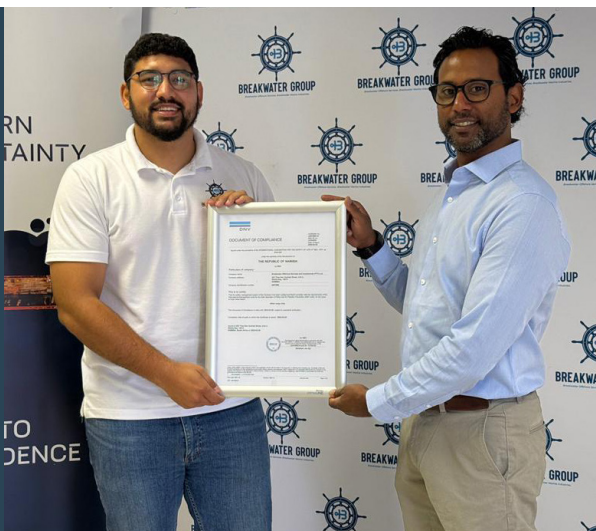
To register or request for documents please submit your name, contact information and interest in the project, in writing to:

Mr Nghyolwa, Fredrich
Tel: +264 (0) 81 147 2029/0812095996
Email: Junior8200581@gmail.com






Breakwater secures full ISO certification



Breakwater Offshore Services & Investments (Pty) Ltd has secured full International Standards Organisation (ISO) certification, strengthening its position as a Namibian-owned offshore services provider.

The company was awarded ISO 9001:2015 for quality management, ISO 14001:2015 for environmental management and ISO 45001:2018 for occupational health and safety.

The certifications, issued by Det Norske Veritas (DNV), are valid from 25 March 2026 to 24 March 2029 and cover the company's offshore marine support operations, including anchor handling, towing, standby support, subsea engineering assistance, offshore logistics, as well as bunkering and refuelling at sea.

Breakwater said the certification confirms compliance with international safety, quality and environmental standards as activity in Namibia's offshore energy sector accelerates.

The company operates its own fleet, including the AHTS Atlantic Ranger and the OSV Sakawe Surveyor, supporting exploration, survey and production

operations.

It is also the only Namibian-owned company holding a Document of Compliance issued by DNV, with support from the Directorate of Maritime Affairs on behalf of the Namibian flag state, confirming its adherence to the International Safety Management Code.

Managing director Peter-John Sylvester said the milestone reflects the company's operational discipline and commitment to international standards.

"Achieving full ISO certification is a significant milestone. It reflects the systems and standards we have implemented to ensure safe, efficient and responsible operations," he said.

The development comes as Namibia expands its offshore oil and gas industry, with increasing emphasis on local content and in-country capacity.

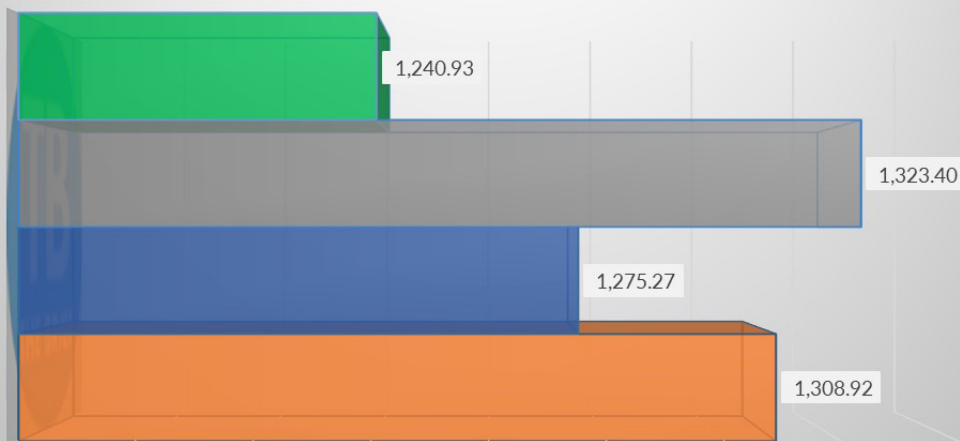
Breakwater said the certification enhances its ability to support international operators while contributing to skills development and localisation within the offshore services sector.

The company operates from Lüderitz and Walvis Bay.



WHOLESALE TOTAL BASKET COST (N\$) - MARCH 2026

■ NAMICA ■ Wecke & Voigts ■ Windhoek C & C ■ Metro



Wholesalers basket comparison: NAMICA offers the lowest basket in March 2026

A comparison of selected bulk grocery items across wholesalers shows that NAMICA recorded the most affordable basket in March 2026, with a total of N\$1,240.93.

This was followed by Windhoek C & C at N\$1,285.27, Metro at N\$1,305.92, and Wecke & Voigts, which recorded the highest basket at N\$1,314.40. The overall price difference between the cheapest and most expensive wholesalers stood at N\$73.47.

NAMICA’s lower basket was largely driven by competitive pricing in key staples such as Tastic rice (N\$168.99), macaroni pasta (N\$118.99) and sugar (N\$179.99). The wholesaler also remained competitive in milk, offering one of the lowest prices for the 6-pack.

Windhoek C & C performed well across selected items, particularly cooking oil (N\$171.95) and wheat flour (N\$135.99), helping to keep its basket relatively close to NAMICA.

Metro, while slightly higher overall, remained competitive in items such as Top Score maize meal (N\$116.99) and milk (N\$119.99).

Wecke & Voigts recorded the highest basket, largely due to higher prices in several items including wheat flour (N\$157.50) and milk (N\$130.80), despite offering relatively competitive pricing in maize meal and chicken.

Best Price per Item – March 2026 Basket Optimization

If a buyer were to source each item

NAMICA's lower basket was largely driven by competitive pricing in key staples such as Tastic rice (N\$168.99), macaroni pasta (N\$118.99) and sugar (N\$179.99).

from the cheapest available wholesaler, rather than purchasing from a single wholesaler, the total basket would come to approximately N\$1,225.50.

This is N\$15.43 cheaper than NAMICA's basket, which is already the lowest overall. The additional savings are mainly driven by sourcing items such as cooking oil and wheat flour from Windhoek C & C, and maize meal from Wecke & Voigts, while purchasing most other staples from NAMICA.

Conclusion & Consumer Takeaway

Overall, NAMICA emerged as the most cost-effective wholesaler for bulk grocery purchases in March 2026, supported by strong pricing across key staple items. While there are opportunities for marginal savings through splitting purchases across wholesalers, the relatively small price differences suggest that most buyers may benefit more from convenience by purchasing from a single wholesaler.

Item	Quantity	Best Price (N\$)	Wholesaler
Cooking Oil	5L	171.95	Windhoek C & C
Top Score Maize Meal	10kg	115.70	Wecke & Voigts
Marathon Sugar	10kg	179.99	NAMICA
Chicken (Real Good/Kadila)	4kg	214.99	NAMICA
Tastic Rice	10kg	168.99	NAMICA
Macaroni Pasta (Polana)	5kg	118.99	NAMICA
Long Life Milk (6 pack)	1L	119.00	NAMICA
Vetkoek Wheat Flour	10kg	135.99	Windhoek C & C
Total		1,225.60	

O&L Leisure wins global travel award in London

O&L Leisure has been named joint winner of the Escapist Award at the OutThere Experientialist Awards 2026, held in London, in recognition of its offering in the global luxury travel market.

The award was accepted on behalf of the Namibian hospitality group by its international representatives, PC Agency.

O&L Leisure Managing Director Maryke van Lill said the recognition reflects the company's service standards and operational performance.

"We are humbled and proud to share in this international honour. Awards such as these are independent validations of quality, service and operational excellence, and they reflect the people behind every experience we deliver," she said.

The Escapist category recognises travel experiences focused on wellbeing, tranquillity and meaningful retreat, with O&L Leisure competing against a range of international luxury destinations.

Shortlisted contenders included properties across Europe and Asia, with judging conducted by an independent panel of international media professionals.

The recognition follows a recent regional award, where O&L Leisure was named Service of the Year for large enterprises at the SADC Quality Awards.

Van Lill said the award highlights the company's focus on local storytelling, conservation and community engagement across its portfolio.

Each of O&L Leisure's six properties is built around Namibia's landscapes and communities, spanning destinations from the Namib Desert and Etosha National Park to the Skeleton Coast.

OutThere, which hosts the awards, is a London-based luxury travel platform



known for its focus on inclusive and experiential travel. Its Experientialist Awards recognise brands contributing to a more sustainable and forward-looking tourism industry.

O&L Leisure is part of the Ohlthaver & List Group and operates six luxury hospitality properties across Namibia.



Namdeb signs payroll investment deal to boost employee share ownership

Namdeb Diamond Corporation has signed a payroll deduction investment agreement with Namitvest, allowing employees to acquire shares through structured salary deductions in a move aimed at improving long-term financial participation.

Under the arrangement, employees will be able to purchase shares in Namitvest over a period of up to 60 months, significantly easing upfront costs and widening access to investment opportunities.

Namdeb Chief Executive Officer Riaan Burger said the agreement is designed to promote disciplined savings and long-term wealth creation among employees.

“This partnership goes beyond an administrative arrangement. It creates a pathway for employees to participate in long-term wealth creation by investing in a disciplined and sustainable manner,” he said.

Employees who opt for payroll deductions will benefit from extended repayment terms of up to five years, compared to 12 months for

those using other payment methods.

The initiative is expected to improve affordability and encourage broader participation, particularly among employees who may face short-term financial constraints.

Namitvest is owned by members of the Mineworkers Union of Namibia and forms part of a wider investment structure established in 1997 through Nam-mic Holdings.

Nam-mic has since grown into a diversified investment company with interests across several sectors, including shareholding in major financial institutions through its financial services arm.

Namitvest holds a 25% stake in Nam-mic, with the group’s underlying asset base now approaching N\$1 billion, providing indirect investment exposure to union members.

The agreement reflects a broader push within the mining sector to expand employee participation in investment structures linked to industry performance.

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