



Republic of Namibia

Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service

**MEDIA BRIEFING ON THE INDEPENDENCE STADIUM RENOVATION
AND UPGRADE PROJECT BY HON. AGNES TJONGARERO, MINISTER
OF SPORT, YOUTH AND NATIONAL SERVICE**

Monday, 02 December 2024

Independence Stadium, Windhoek

Good afternoon, esteemed members of the press, colleagues, and distinguished guests.

1. Thank you for joining us for this important announcement about the future of our cherished Independence Stadium. Today, I am pleased to provide an update on the progress of this transformative project.
2. Following a rigorous public procurement process in terms of the Public Procurement Act, the Ministry of Sport, Youth, and National Service has appointed Marley Tjitjo Architects in joint venture with Denchi Consulting Engineers and Richard Frankle & Partners Quantity Surveyors to provide architectural, engineering, and quantity surveying consultancy services required for the upgrade of the Independence Stadium.
3. This appointment signifies the launch of an ambitious effort to develop a stadium with a seating capacity of 30,000 which meets the Confederation of African Football (CAF) Category

3 standards, as outlined in the 2022 edition of CAF Stadium Regulations.

4. Once completed, the upgraded stadium will enable Namibia to host premier events such as the Africa Cup of Nations and FIFA World Cup qualifiers. Furthermore, it will serve as a leading venue for athletics and other national and international events, solidifying its role as the proud home of Namibia's national football teams.
5. Following the signing of the contract, the consultancy team already commenced work on 12 November 2024 and is expected to deliver the following phases:

a) Assessment and Surveys:

The initial step, which is already underway, involves a comprehensive assessment of the stadium and its amenities. This includes surveying municipal services, existing facilities, and site topography.

b) Stakeholder Consultations:

Consultants have already begun to engage with stakeholders to ensure compliance with municipal by-laws, among other statutory requirements.

c) Design Concept Development:

The consultants will develop a design concept to estimate construction costs, establish the project budget, and outline the construction program and timeline.

d) Feasibility Study Report:

The phases I have outlined above will form part of a detailed feasibility study report the consultants will submit to the Ministry for approval before the end of January 2025, discounting the construction holiday and delays that were caused by the High Court challenge.

e) Detailed Design and Tender Documentation:

Upon approval of the feasibility study, the team will create detailed designs and tender documentation to initiate the procurement process for the contractor.

f) Construction Phase:

6. The construction phase is expected to commence during the second quarter of the 2025/2026 Financial Year following the successful completion of the procurement process for the contractor, marking the final step in the project.
7. This project forms part of the Namibian Government's broader strategy to provide world-class sports facilities across the country. In addition to the Independence Stadium, tenders for consultancy services for CAF Category 2 stadiums in Opuwo, Outapi, Katima Mulilo, Usakos, and Otjiwarongo are currently open, closing on 17 December 2024. Construction of stadiums in Nkurenkuru and Eehnana is already at an advanced stage.
8. Thank you for your attention and continued support. Together, we are not just upgrading facilities; we are building a brighter future for Namibian sports, fostering national pride, and empowering our athletes to shine on the world stage.