



YOUTH VOICE

The official newsletter of the Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service

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Republic of Namibia



MINISTER CALLED ON MINISTRY’S MANAGEMENT TO IMPLEMENT OUTSTANDING PROJECTS IN NEW FINANCIAL YEAR

By Aina Shikesho

On 16 March 2023, Hon Agnes Tjongarero, Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service, addressed the staff members of her Ministry, National Youth Council, National Youth Service and the Namibia Sports Commission during her official ministerial opening for the new calendar year.

Honourable Tjongarero highlighted the Ministry’s past performance, calling on her Ministry’s management to align the 2023/2024 Annual Plan to the current strategic plan by focusing on ongoing programmes and projects as reflected in NDP5, HPPII and MTEF.....continued on page 4

MSYNS
NEWSLETTER

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From the ED's Desk

Mr Mbumba Erastus
Haitengela
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



I welcome our readers to the final issue of Youth Voice newsletter for the 2022/2023 Financial Year. Youth Voice contains information on the activities and programmes undertaken by the Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service during this financial. This issue will cover this year's fourth quarter.

Amidst the youth's current displeasure with the various societal ills affecting them, it is only fair to explain the role of this Ministry to the Namibian nation. The Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service (MSYNS) was established in 2005 to develop and empower the youth while promoting and developing sports in the country. But, these functions have existed longer, as the sports directorate was part of the Ministry of Basic Education, while the youth directorate was part of the Ministry of Higher Education.

From the onset, it is crucial to understand that the MSYNS is not an employment creation institution for the youth. The Ministry, however, runs various programmes aiming to appropriately position young people to take up their roles in society as equal partners in the development of Namibian society.

Towards this end, the Ministry provides out-of-school unemployed youth with opportunities to learn relevant skills at the Ministry's various skills training centres. Through its Credit Scheme funding programme, the Ministry offers moderate funding to interested youth to enter the small business industry.

Thus, as we reflect on our 2022/2023 financial year, keeping in mind the budgetary constraints that affected the implementation of our Ministry's mandate, we embark on the process to ensure that the new financial year brings with it an aspect of forward momentum in the implementation of the Ministry's mandate.

Within the backdrop of the youth demand to access opportunities within the public sector and the Honourable Minister Agnes Tjongarero's call to finalize pertinent outstanding projects in the new financial year, indeed, some progress must be undertaken to move from the inaction that has paralyzed the Ministry's activities, during the preceding financial reporting period.

Already, Cabinet resolved to mandate the MSYNS to establish a national task force entrusted with monitoring and ensuring intergovernmental coordination in implementing the recommendations of the Targeted Review Report on Youth Unemployment in Namibia.

In this regard, our Deputy Minister, Honourable Emma Kantema – Gaomas, commissioned National Taskforce members to implement the Targeted Review Report on Youth Unemployment in Namibia. The report studied the country's extent, nature and causes of youth unemployment and provided recommendations for intervention by stakeholders within various O/M/As.

Significant projects from the preceding financial years must show some progress this year. The downgrading of the Independence Stadium for international football and the accompanying bidding with the Republic of Botswana must take prominence to co-host the 2027 African Nations Cup. Notwithstanding the limited funds, the sport has continued to be a shining light on the sports front, demonstrating the enormous potential of the country's sportspersons.

The Namibian citizenry demands some form of progress, especially regarding the expected renovations to the Independence Stadium. Namibians want their Brave Warriors back in their stadium; as such, the Ministry must do its best to ensure this happens.

This financial year will see the National Men Rugby Team participate in the upcoming Rugby World Cup in France. Also, this year will be crucial for athletes vying to qualify for the 2024 Olympic Games. Thus in light of all these envisaged international sporting events, our Ministry takes this opportunity to applaud the private sector's role in funding various sports codes. We also request other institutions in the private sector to get on board by giving more Namibian athletes a fair chance to compete internationally.

In conclusion let us enter the new financial year with vigour and hope, so as to execute our mandate with pride.

MINISTER CALLED ON MINISTRY'S MANAGEMENT TO IMPLEMENT OUTSTANDING PROJECTS IN NEW FINANCIAL YEAR...continued from page 1

“This Ministry has a number of outstanding programmes and projects which, for various reasons, we were unable to finalize. Therefore, I am calling upon the Executive Director and his senior management team to ensure that unfinished programmes and projects get priority in the annual plan of the new financial year,” she emphasized.

Amid the youth's restlessness and the dilapidating state of the Ministry's sports facilities, Hon. Tjongarero urged all staff members to measure the Ministry's effectiveness in delivering on the government's youth empowerment and sports development mandate.

She further instructed management to finalize outstanding matters such as the drafting of the new sports act, completion of the Eenhana sports complex, the commencement of the construction of the Nkurenkuru Multi-Purpose Youth Centre and sports complex, completion of the Berg Aukas electrification project, development of the sport as well as the youth development indexes, the resumption of the Namibia Youth Credit Scheme, the implementation of the one hundred and twenty-one (121) Rural Youth Enterprises, as well as the renovation and upgrading of the Independence Stadium, amongst others.



Hon. Agnes Tjongarero, Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service with Mr Mbumba Haitengela, Executive Director

In conclusion, Hon. Tjongarero called on all staff to re-dedicate themselves to the noble cause of serving the youth and the sports sector with patriotism, pride and dedication.

“Our young people are hopeful. Let’s strive to excel in all areas of our mandate and try to work in harmony.”



Staff members in the Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service, Namibia Sports Commission, National Youth Council and National Youth Service

DEPUTY MINISTER COMMISSION THE TASKFORCE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TARGETED REVIEW REPORT ON YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT

By Aina Shikesho



Front row seated, from left: Amb. Wilfried I. Emvula, Chairperson: APRM National Governing Council, Hon. Emma Kantema - Gaomas, Deputy Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service, Ms Sharonice Busch, Executive Chairperson of the NYC and Mr Nicolars Tembwe, Director of Youth

The African Peer Review Mechanism published a Targeted Review Report on Youth Unemployment in Namibia in November 2021. The report studied the country's extent, nature and causes of youth unemployment and provided recommendations for intervention by various stakeholders. As a result, Namibia became the first country to openly allow a peer review by other African States on its youth unemployment.

Consequently, a Cabinet resolution mandated the Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service (MSYNS) to establish a national task force entrusted with monitoring and ensuring intergovernmental coordination in implementing the recommendations. The MSYNS is responsible for coordinating the process of compiling the progress report on Youth Unemployment in the country.

Towards setting the ball rolling, the Deputy Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service, Hon. Emma Kantema – Gaomas commissioned members of the National Taskforce to implement the Targeted Review Report on Youth Unemployment in Namibia on 03 February 2023.

The national plan of action requires government offices/ministries/agencies to mainstream the youth agenda in their developmental programmes, as per the existing national policies' strategies and action plans. In line with the recommendations of the Report, to ensure positive outcomes in terms of job creation for the youth, the task force is entrusted to report progress on the facilitation with public and private sectors in the under-mentioned areas:

- Increase youth intake in technical and vocational training;
- Increase internships for skills transfer;
- Increase youth employment quotas within the public and private sectors;
- Increase funding for youth enterprising;
- Improve tax incentives for youth enterprises;

- Increase youth participation in local procurement;
- Increase youth participation in primary agriculture activities (farming) and in value addition business activities (such as Agro-Processing activities); and
- Improve academic curriculum of the education system to encourage entrepreneurship among the students and increase sports development among the youth.

The taskforce comprises of the undermentioned officials:

- Ms. Joy Mamili, National Youth Service;
- Ms. Aurelia Hatutale, Ministry of Urban & Rural Development
- Ms. Lahja Hipondoka, Ministry of Urban & Rural Development
- Mrs. Calista Schawartz-Gowases, National Youth Council
- Ms. Lydia Indombo, Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation
- Ms. Susan Ntema, Office of the Prime Minister
- Mr. Roux Sampati, National Planning Commission
- Ms. Laina Mbongo, National Planning Commission
- Dr Alfons Witbeen, APRM National Secretariat
- Mr. Festus Hangula, APRM National Secretariat
- Mr. Astro Kabuku, APRM National Secretariat
- Ms. Victorina David, APRM National Secretariat
- Mr. Yul Andrew, Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service;
- Mrs. Helen Amutoko, Ministry of Sport Youth and National Service;
- Mr. Nicolars Tembwe, Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service; and
- Mr. Shalom Nghifitikeko, Ministry of International Relations & Cooperation

The Task Force will be expected to finalise and submit Namibia's progress report to the African Peer Review Forum of Heads of State and Government in February 2024. The Targeted Review Report on Youth Unemployment in Namibia is accessible on the Ministry's website.

MINISTER LAUNCH SPAR 10 KM WOMEN RACE

By Aina Shikesho



From left: Mr Irvine Ndjavera, Deputy Director: School Sport, Mr Francois Lotter, Spar Retail Operations Manager, Mr Mbumba Haitengela, Executive Director, Mr Berthold Karumendu, Omaruru Regional Sport Officer, Hon. Agnes Tjongarero, Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service, Ms Jo-Ann Manuel, Director of Sport and Mr Eugene van Wyngaard, Regional Manager: Spar Group Namibia

On 13 February 2023, Hon. Agnes Tjongarero, Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service, launched the first-ever edition of the Spar Namibia 10km Women Race.

The event, officially sponsored by Spar Group Namibia, will offer Namibian women an opportunity to take to the streets on Sunday, 23 April 2023 at Wanderers Sports Club in Windhoek. The race will comprise a 10 km race and a 5km walk and is strictly for Namibian women of all ages.

Hon. Tjongarero urged all Namibian females to take part in the event. "I strongly urge Namibian females to come out in great numbers to participate in this momentous occasion. Come out and join the community of long distance running by participating in this event, where you can run or walk at your own pace, just as long as you are physically active," remarked Hon. Tjongarero.

Hon. Tjongarero extended her appreciation to Spar Namibia for their unwavering support of sport development.

She also extended a challenge to all her colleagues in Parliament, as well as all the female captains of industry, teachers, nurses, police officers and every Namibian female to participate in turning the occasion into a celebration of Namibian females.

Registration and payment can be done online at any Spar store throughout the country at a fee of N\$ 150.

The winning prize will be shared on Spar's Facebook page, and proceeds from the registration fees will go to charity organisations.

Some Spar stores will concurrently host a similar race for people outside the Windhoek area.



Hon. Agnes Tjongarero
Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service

NATIONAL INDOOR HOCKEY TEAMS TO COMPETE AT THE 2023 HOCKEY WORLD CUP IN SOUTH AFRICA

By Aina Shikesho



Hon. Emma Kantemaa - Gaomas, Deputy Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service with Women and Men Hockey Teams and senior officials in the Ministry and Namibia Sports Commission

The Deputy Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service, Honourable Emma Kantema - Gaomas, officially send off the National Men, and Women Senior Indoor Hockey Teams, set to participate in the upcoming 2023 Hockey World Cup, which will be hosted in Pretoria, South Africa, from 5 - 12 February 2023.

Hon. Kantema - Gaomas extended the government's sincere gratitude to NAMDIA, MTC, Standard Bank and Namibre for sponsoring the Women's Hockey team, while extending the same to NAMDIA and MTC for funding the Men's Hockey Team.

The President of the Namibia Hockey Federation, Mr Reagon Graig, presented the National Indoor Hockey Teams to the Honourable Deputy Minister.



From Left: Ms Magreth Mengo, Captain of Women Hockey Team, Ms Jo-Ann Manuel, Director of Sport, Hon. Emma Kantema - Gaomas, Deputy Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service and Mr. David Strauss, Captain of Men Hockey Team

"We are pleased with the Namibian Hockey Federation's efforts to build the National Hockey Teams. Their efforts are commendable, as this will be the second World Cup appearance for the Men's Hockey Team and the third appearance for the Women's Hockey Team. The Namibian people will be rooting for you all the way, and we are confident that you will finish on the winning podium at the World Cup," remarked Hon. Kantema - Gaomas.



Mr Reagon Graig, President of the Namibia Hockey Federation

RUBEN REDDY ARCHITECTS SUBMITS THE FACILITIES AUDIT REPORT TO HON. AGNES TJONGARERO

By Jessica Gaomuses



Hon. Agnes Tjongarero, Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service with officials from Ruben Reddy Architects, FIFA/NFA Normalisation Committee, Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service and BONA Committee

On 29 March 2023, the Ruben Reddy Architects presented the Facilities Audit Report to Hon. Agnes Tjongarero, Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service.

The report will guide BONA on the specifications needed to bring our stadiums on par with the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) & Confederation of African Football (CAF) requirements.

Once Honourable Tjongarero presents the report to His Excellency Hage G. Geingob, President of the Republic of Namibia and Commander in Chief, the content of the report will be shared with the Namibian nation.



Hon. Agnes Tjongarero, Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service with officials from Ruben Reddy Architects, FIFA/NFA Normalisation Committee, Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service and BONA Committee



Officials from FIFA/NFA Normalisation Committee and BONA Committee

BRIEF BACKGROUND: NAMIBIA YOUTH CREDIT SCHEME, YOUTH SKILLS TRAINING CENTRES AND 121 RURAL YOUTH CONSTITUENCY ENTERPRISES

Namibia Youth Credit Scheme

The Namibia Youth Credit Scheme (NYCS) is a loan guarantee programme that targets Namibian youth between the ages of 18 to 34 years who cannot access the primary banking system.

Under this programme, young people participate voluntarily and must be willing to take a loan individually. They propose the type of business they want to establish; however, their parents or guardians must sign their loan application forms on their behalf as collateral.

The Scheme aims to empower youth with entrepreneurship opportunities by offering training in:

- Basic Business Management
- Access to Credit
- Follow-up training
- Counselling and mentoring of beneficiaries.

The programme operates through an individual and group lending system. The programme is for start-up businesses and is implemented by various organisations.

The loans are offered in four phases ranging from:
Start-up Loan

- 1st phase: N\$ 1 000 – N\$ 8 000

Business Expansion Loan

- 2nd phase: N\$ 8 000 – N\$ 14 000
- 3rd phase: N\$ 14 000 – N\$ 20 000

Business that employed other youth (Higher Loan)

- 4th phase N\$ 20 000 – N\$ 100 000

Youth Skills Training Centre

The Ministry offers one year basic technical and non-technical trades to out-of-school youth who do not qualify for conventional vocational training centres by enrolling them in our youth skills training centres and basic three to six months courses at multi-purpose youth resource centres.

The youth skills training centres aim to impart basic skills to these trainees to become self-reliant and employable, thus contributing meaningfully to the country's economic development.

The Ministry currently have Multi-Purpose Youth Resource Centres in all fourteen regional capitals and two operational Youth Skills Training Centres, namely,

- Okahao Youth Skills Training Centre in Okahao, Omusati region.
- Kai//Ganaxab Youth Skills Training Centre in Mariental, Hardap region.

The Multi-Purpose Youth Resource Centres offer:

- Computer
- Tailoring classes

Youth skills training centres offer various trades such as:

- Plumbing
- Carpentry
- Bricklaying and Plastering
- Agriculture
- Tailoring
- Office Administration
- Horticulture
- Animal Husbandry

121 Rural Youth Constituency Enterprises

The Harambee Prosperity Plan 1 (HPP1) tasked the Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service to establish 121 Rural Youth Constituency Enterprises, an initiative of His Excellency Dr Hage Geingob, President of the Republic of Namibia, when he took over as President in 2015.

The Ministry embarked upon a resource mobilization exercise to establish the Rural Youth Constituency Enterprises in all 121 constituencies as mandated by the HPP1.

The youth from specific constituencies will manage the Rural Youth Enterprises, which are registered as Close Corporations.

The enterprises are in the name of the Constituencies, and the Youth Officers selected members of the enterprises together with the Office of the Constituency Councillor.

Each enterprise comprises 5 – 10 members, and all are shareholders in their respective enterprises. Where one person is an enterprise owner, that person is mandated to employ other young people from their Constituency.

NANTU – Likwafela Savings and Credit C-operative Ltd were appointed as the financial intermediaries through an Open Bidding process.



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