



# YOUTH VOICE

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

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Republic of Namibia



## COURTESY VISIT OF ATHLETES TO THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

BY AINA SHIKESHO

Some of the athletes that qualified for the upcoming Olympics and Paralympics Games in Tokyo, Japan, paid a courtesy visit to the Office of the Vice President on Wednesday, 28 April 2021.

During his address to the athletes, His Excellency, the Vice President, Dr. Nangolo Mbumba, emphasized the importance of teamwork, competing fairly, while urging the athletes to be friendly towards their competitors. ....continued on page

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QUARTERLY  
NEWSLETTER

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The Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service is pleased to present its first quarterly newsletter for the 2021/2022 financial year. The edition of Youth Voice highlights on the activities undertaken during the first quarter under the review period.

Despite the impact of Covid -19 on youth and sport programmes, the Ministry continuous to honour its mandate towards its very important target group, the Namibian youth.

Sport unites and develops an image of the player as well as the place from where the player is, that it was an honour to present Namibia's finest athletes that qualified for the Olympic Games to the Vice President of the Republic of Namibia, His Excellency, Dr. Nangolo Mbumba.

During the visit, Dr. Mbumba urged the athletes to be patriotic by representing the country well internationally and informed them of his arrangement for Telecom to sponsor them with some athletic gears.

Towards ensuring sport development at grassroots level, our Honourable Minister inaugurated the construction of the OlympAfrica Centre in Omaruru. The Centre will focus on developing and educating adolescent athletes from the ages of 13 to 15 years in four (4) key areas, namely: Sport, Culture, Educations and Socio-Economic initiatives. The Centre will provide a safe place for the adolescent and keep them off the streets.

The Honourable Minister also inaugurated board members of the Boxing and Wrestling Control Board, who will be responsible for the regulating, controlling and exercising general supervision over boxing and wrestling tournaments in Namibia. The cherry on top was the appointment of a woman to chair the board, which is history in the making. This gesture is very much appreciated and acknowledged.

In order to continue lighting the spirit of domestic football in the country, our Honourable Deputy Minister officiated the launch of the MTC NFA Cup Aweh Knockout competition, which aims to help teams transit to the new football season, which is set to start in August 2021. Youth Voice also brings you articles on the courtesy visit by the 400m fastest women in the world, Ms. Christine Mboma and Ms. Beatrice Masilingi and the Honourable Deputy Minister's vaccination against Covid – 19, where she called upon the youth and sport fraternity to emulate.

It is no secret that the country has a high unemployment rate amongst the Namibian youth. However, in order to address this pressing issue, the Honourable Minister officially launched the Strategic Plan of the National Youth Forum in Oranjemund that focusses on addressing unemployment amongst the youth of Oranjemund.

Please enjoy reading this edition of Youth Voice!

## COURTESY VISIT OF ATHLETES TO THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT....continued



He further requested the athletes to be exemplary and carry themselves with honour, because of them being representatives of Namibia, “When you win, your national flag is seen and the country’s national anthem is sang at that platform.”

His Excellency, the Vice President, further informed the athletes of his approach to Telecom Namibia and the latter’s agreement, to come on board and assist the athletes with some sporting gear. Additionally, the Vice President complimented both Ms. Christine Mboma and Ms. Beatrice Masilingi, for their exceptional performances which has resulted in them qualifying for the Olympics Games, this early in their athletics careers.

In her remarks, Honourable Agnes Tjongarero, Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service, remarked that “It is a big honour and a big encouragement to be received by the Vice President,” thus athletes should take this as an encouragement to motivate them to perform at their best during the upcoming Olympics and Paralympics Games.

The Honorable Minister was accompanied by a delegation comprising of, Hon. Emma Kantema – Gaomas, Deputy Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service, Dr. Audrin Mathe, Executive Director in the Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service, Mr. Freddy Mwiya, Chief Administrator of Namibia Sports Commission, Ms. Joan Smit, Secretary General of Namibia National Olympic Committee (NNOC)’

The athletes that paid a courtesy visit to the Office of the Vice President were, Ms. Helalia Johannes, Marathon Runner, Mr. Tomas Rainhold, Marathon runner, Ms. Christine Mboma, 400 m athlete and Ms. Beatrice Masilingi, 200m and 400m athlete.

Other athletes that will also be departing for Tokyo are Mr. Jonas Jonas, Boxing, Mr. Dan Craven, Cyclist, Ms. Vera Adrian, Cyclist, Ms. Michelle Vorster, Cyclist Mr. Young Alexander, Cyclist, Mr. Freddy Mwiya Jnr. Karate, Ms. Suzelle Pronk, Karate, Ms. Maike Diekmann, Rowing, Gymnastics trampoline athlete, swimmer and five (5) para-athletes.



# OLYMPAFRICA CENTRE CONSTRUCTION INAUGURATED IN OMARURU

BY ZIITA AUGUSTO



Hon Agnes Tjongarero, Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service, officially inaugurated the construction of the OlympAfrica Centre in Omaruru on Saturday, 17 April 2021. Hon. Tjongarero indicated that the centre will focus on developing and educating adolescent athletes.

The OlympAfrica Foundation was created in 1989, and is a programme that caters for societal development through sports for adolescents from the ages of 13 to 15-years. The OlympAfrica Centre will focus on four (4) key areas, namely: Sport, Culture, Educations and Socio-Economic initiatives.

The OlympAfrica Centre will host athletics competitions for approximately seven thousand, two hundred (7,200) participants held over twenty four (24) days, in line with the World Athletics Programme for adolescents.

The centre will also run the FC Barcelona Foundation and International Olympic Committee (IOC) funded programme of FutbolNet, which a mixed football session for boys and girls, playing together on the same pitch.

The International OlympAfrica Foundation and its partners donated approximately two million, five hundred seventy six thousand and three hundred forty (N\$ 2,576,340) Namibian Dollars for the construction of centre. Given the fact that the Namibia National Olympic Committee (NNOC) is tasked with issues of Olympism in Namibia, it was thus awarded the construction of the Namibia OlympAfrica Centre, in 2006.

The NNOC plans to equip the Centre with a small library that will enable children to assist with school projects. Community projects such as gardening, arts and crafts, etc. will be initiated and implemented in the future.

# HON AGNES TJONGARERO INAUGURATE THE BOARD MEMBERS OF THE BOXING AND WRESTLING CONTROL BOARD

BY AINA SHIKESHO



From left: Mr. Irvine Ndjavera, Acting Director of Sport, Mr. Jason Naule, Hon. Emma Kantema-Gaomas, Deputy Minister, Hon. Agnes Tjongarero, Minister, Ms. Magreth Mengo, Dr. Audrin Mathe, Executive Director & Dr. Sebastian Shituleni. In absentia, Mrs. Veruschka de la Harpe and Ms. Irene Shebo

Hon. Agnes Tjongarero, Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service, appointed five (5) board members to the Namibia Boxing and Wrestling Control Board (NBWCB), for a period of three (3) years.

The board will be responsible for the regulation, controlling and exercising general supervision over boxing and wrestling tournaments in Namibia. NBWCB is entrusted with the duty to prevent undesirable practices in boxing and wrestling, so as to protect the interests of boxers, wrestlers, promoters, officials and the public in general.

The appointed board members are Ms. Magreth Mengo as Chairperson, Mr. Jason Naule, Mrs. Veruschka de la Harpe, Dr. Sebastian Shituleni and Ms. Irene Shebo. Hon. Tjongarero requested the board members to peruse and amend the outdated boxing act to the current status quo.

She also requested them to conduct themselves in accordance with the boxing act to avoid unnecessary conflicts and to treat the promoters, who are ensuring that boxers are recognised internationally, fairly. Hon. Tjongarero acclaimed the first ever appointment of a woman to chair the Boxing and Wrestling Control Board.

“It is the first time in the history of board members, a woman is appointed as a Chairperson for the Boxing and Wrestling Control Board. “She is known as an athlete, now she needs to proof herself as an administrator,” remarked Hon. Tjongarero.

On her part, Ms. Mengo, Chairperson of the Boxing and Wrestling Control Board, expressed gratitude to the Minister for their appointment. “Thank you for entrusting us and allowing us to serve for this national responsibility. We will serve with total commitment as a board and you will have our commitment from the beginning until the end.

She further stated her commitment to drive for harmony between all important role players in the boxing and wrestling sectors. Ms. Mengo also assured the Minister that they will prioritise to review and finalize the envisaged amendments to the existing Act as soon as possible. She further stated that the board will consult all the relevant stakeholders, to ensure that everybody owns the Act and view it as a living document that is amended and speaks to the current situation.



# MTC NFA CUP LAUNCHED IN WINDHOEK

BY GOMA KANDJIMI



From left: Mr. Tim Ekandjo, MTC's Chief of Human Capital and Corporate Affairs, Hon. Emma Kantema-Gaomas, Deputy Minister & Mr. Ranga Haikali, President of Namibia Football Association

On Tuesday, 13 April 2021, Hon. Emma Kantema-Gaomas, Deputy Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service officiated at the launch of the MTC NFA CUP AWEH KNOCKOUT COMPETITION.

The competition will commence on 17 April 2021 and the winner will be crowned on 31 July 2021. According to Mr. Mabos Vries, NFA League Director, the aim of the cup is to help teams transit to the new football season, which is set to start in August 2021.

The MTC NFA Cup AWEH will comprise of teams from the Namibia Football Premier League (NFPL), 3 first division and 14 second division teams. The winning team will receive five hundred thousand (N\$ 500,000.00) Namibian dollars, runner up will receive two hundred and fifty thousand (N\$ 250 000.00), third place will receive one hundred and fifty thousand (N\$ 150 000.00) Namibian dollars and one hundred thousand (N\$ 100 000.00) Namibian dollars will be awarded to the fourth place.

Speaking at the occasion, Mr. Tim Ekandjo, MTC Chief Human Capital and Corporate Officer, remarked that the competition should focus on the players, to realise their dreams and not on the administrators' politics.

On her part, Hon. Kantema-Gaomas requested Mr. Ranga Haikali, the NFA President, to ensure that Namibian football league returns to the pitch, so that she can share with her fellow parliamentarians that football has indeed kicked off. Additionally, the Honourable Deputy Minister also requested the NFA to ensure the continued professional development of lower division players.





# NAMIBIA'S WORLD FASTEST 400M ATHLETES PAYS COURTESY VISIT TO THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF SPORT, YOUTH AND NATIONAL SERVICE

BY RICARDO GOAGOSEB



Christine Mboma (49, 24 seconds) and Beatrice Masilingi (49,53 seconds) who set the world's fastest 400m times this year, paid a courtesy visit to Hon. Emma Kantema-Gaomas, Deputy Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service. During the visit, the Honourable Deputy Minister complimented the athletes' for their astonishing achievement, which came from an unflinching dedication to training.

## WOMEN'S NATIONAL CRICKET TEAM

Hon. Emma Kantema – Gaomas, Deputy Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service, is seen here with the Women's National Cricket Team, during an inter squad game organized, for the team to showcase their new national cricket kit. The event was also attended by UNDP Resident Representative, Ms. Alka Bhatia.



“This is prove that your wildest dreams can become a reality with enough discipline and focus”, said Honourable Deputy Minister, Emma Kantema – Gaomas, when addressing the athletes. Chrstine Mboma and Beatrice Masilingi were accompanied by their coach, Mr. Henk Botha.







## DEPUTY MINISTER GETS VACCINATED FOR COVID – 19

BY AINA SHIKESHO

Hon. Emma Kantema – Gaomas, Deputy Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service, got vaccinated against Covid – 19 at Katutura State Hospital, Nurses Home Hall, today, 19 April 2021. In a message to the youth and the entire sport fraternity, Hon. Kantema – Gaomas, called on the youth and the entire sport sector to heed the call of His Excellency, President Dr. Hage Geingob, and get vaccinated against Covid-19, whenever the vaccine becomes readily available. The Honourable Deputy Minister was vaccinated with Sinopharm vaccine from China.



## OUTREACH CONDOMIZE CAMPAIGN

BY ZIITA AUGUSTO



The Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service in collaboration with the Namibia Planned Parenthood Association (NAPPA), African Youth Adolescent Network (AfriYAN) and the Ministry of Health and Social Services (MoHSS), conducted an outreach Condomize campaign at the University of Namibia, Main campus, from 01 – 02 June 2021 in Windhoek.

The aim of the Condomize outreach campaign was centred on creating awareness in the fight to destigmatize the use of condoms amongst young people, especially adolescent at tertiary institutions. Furthermore, the productive campaign facilitated the access to quality condoms as well as to integrate Sexual and Reproductive Health services amongst the youth.



# LAUNCH OF THE 2021/2024 STRATEGIC PLAN OF THE ORANJEMUND NATIONAL YOUTH FORUM

BY ZIITA AUGUSTO

The National Youth Forum in Oranjemund launched its 2021/2024 Strategic Plan on 08 June 2021. The event which was officially launched by Hon. Agnes Tjongarero, Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service, was attended by Hon. Aletha Frederick: Governor of //Kharas region, Ms. Sharonice Busch: Executive Chairperson of the National Youth Council, Oranjemund Constituency councilors and approximately thirty (30) youth from the surrounding area.

The strategic plan was compiled after extensive consultations with the youth from the surrounding area and will focus on setting up targets, which will address the needs of the youth in Oranjemund. According to Mr. Nestor Sheimi, Chairperson of the Oranjemund National Youth Forum, the plan is to establish an employment centre, which will focus on reducing unemployment amongst the youth, through three pillars, namely; Training and Skills Development, Employment Placement and Entrepreneur Development.



Hon. Tjongarero also had an engagement with the youth in Rosh Pinah, who expressed their need for a vocational training centre, in order to position the youth in the area, to manufacture uniforms and produce steel in the area, instead of importing from South Africa.

While Hon. Tjongarero welcomed the initiative, she however urged the youth to put in place the relevant planning procedures such as feasibility studies, to ensure that they have all the relevant guidance essential to implement the project.





BY ZIITA AUGUSTO

## MEET THE NEWLY APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT, MR. NICOLARS TEMBWE

Nicolars Tembwe, started his career as a Teacher in 2001 after obtaining a Basic Education Teaching Diploma from the then Windhoek College of Education, currently known as UNAM Khomasdal Campus.

In 2009, he was promoted to Head of Department and in 2013, he was promoted to Senior Education Officer in the Ministry of Education, Art and Culture at Oshikoto region. From May 2015 to May 2021, Mr. Tembwe served in various managerial position as Head of Trainee Support at Namibia Training Authority (NTA) at Valombola Vocational Training Centre, in Oshana region.

Mr. Tembwe was appointed as the Director of Youth Development in the Ministry of Sport, Youth & National Service on 1 June 2021. He has a Master Degree in Educational Administration, Planning & Social Policy, from the University of Cape Town, B-Ed Honours in Education, Training and Development from the University of Johannesburg, Diploma in Educational Management from the Rand Afrikaans University.

He has also earned various certificates of competency which includes a Certificate in Education Rights from the Witwatersrand University, Certificate in Management of Training Institutions from ITC (ILO), Certificate in Employment Services for Youth from ITC (ILO) and Certificate in Corporate Governance from Namibia Institute of Public Administration & Management (NIPAM).



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