

# Chamber of Mines OF NAMIBIA

The quarterly newsletter of the Namibian mining industry



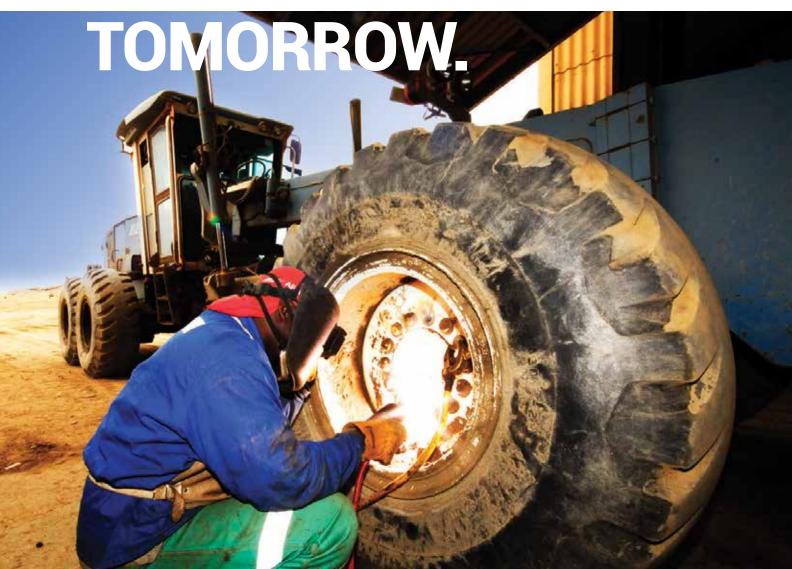
WWW.CHAMBEROFMINES.ORG.NA • ISSUE 3/2017 • SEPTEMBER 2017



# KEEPING EVERYONE SAFE TODAY AND

At Namdeb, we always push boundaries and look for ways to do better. This applies to every aspect of our business including the most important; taking care of the men and women who make the good we do possible. We therefore, take pride in working safely and helping others to do the same, to ensure we all return home unharmed after every shift. We uphold our safety standards with the greatest regard, because through them, every person at Namdeb remains safe today and tomorrow.

GOOD TODAY.
BETTER TOMORROW.



#### Chamber of Mines

OF NAMIBIA

#### **NEWSLETTER**





6 NAMDEB'S SOUTHERN COASTAL MINE WARRIORS WEATHER THE STORM

12 THE RÖSSING FOUNDATION





#### **CHAMBER OF MINES**

PRESIDENT: K. KAPWANGA FIRST VICE PRESIDENT: J. COETZEE SECOND VICE PRESIDENT: H. MBAKO

CEO: VESTON MALANGO
HR ADMINISTRATOR: SIGNA NDOMBO
ACCOUNTANT: HILMA NAMPALA
PA TO CEO: DOREEN MEYER
ECONOMIST: LAUREN DAVIDSON

PO Box 2895 3 Schutzen Street Windhoek, Namibia

Tel: +264 (0)61 237 925 Fax: +264 (0)61 222 638

info@chamberofmines.org.na www.chamberofmines.org.na

#### **COMPILED BY**

Lauren Davidson

#### **CONTRIBUTORS**

Lauren Davidson CoM Members

#### **PRINTERS**

John Meinert Printing

#### STOCK IMGAES

Shutterstock.com and Stock.xchng

#### ON THE COVER



Paulo Samuel, Rössing Foundation education officer: Science and learners at the mobile laboratory, which was deployed to support rural schools where tuition of Mathematics, the Science and English is often hampered by lack of facilities. This edition features the history, successes and evolution of the Foundation.

Chamber of Mines © 2017. This newsletter is published by the Chamber of Mines. All rights are reserved. Whilst every care has been taken to ensure accuracy of information contained within, no liability can be accepted by the publishers or the contributors for any errors, misstatements or omissions which may have occurred. The opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the publishers. Also, the publishers accept no legal liability regarding the copyright ownerships for material which was supplied directly to the publishers by any of the advertisers or contributors.



**( (**Half-year production results show improvement in the output of diamonds

#### THIRD EDITION

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

would like to take this opportunity to formally congratulate the new Executive Committee of the Chamber of Mines; Mr. Johan Coetzee as Chamber President, Managing Director of Navachab gold mine, Mr. Hilfa Mbako as first Vice President, Managing Director of AREVA Resources Namibia, and Zebra Kasete as second Vice President, Managing Director of Dundee Precious Metals Tsumeb. I wish them all the best for their tenure as the executive management of the Chamber of Mines, and am confident that the industry body will continue to progress to greater heights under their leadership.

Half-year production results show improvement in the output f of diamonds, special high-grade zinc and gold bullion, which is consistent with price improvements for these minerals and the continuous rebound of the gold price. The uranium sub-sector remains strained, with prices persistently hovering around U\$20/lb after its fall to record lows of U\$18.75/lb towards the end of 2016.

Mining sector developments aside, this edition draws specific attention to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives undertaken by the mining industry, highlighting their contribution to socio-economic development in surrounding communities and their role achieving the objectives laid out in NDP5 and the Harambee Prosperity Plan. This is also of major relevance to Chamber members, as we have broadened the strategic focus of CSR programmes from impacts on surrounding communities, to a more integrated and combined approach, with other members, focusing on regional and country-wide CSR programmes.

Lastly, details of the 2018 Mining Expo & Conference are also released in this edition, with the dates for next year's event on 26th and 27th April. I trust you will enjoy reading the pages of this newsletter.

Veston Malango CEO – CHAMBER OF MINES



#### Chamber of Mines of Namibia

THE COUNCIL OF THE CHAMBER OF MINES WISHES TO WELCOME AND CONGRATULATE THE NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CHAMBER OF MINES FOR THE PERIOD 2017 TO 2019



Mr. Johan Coetzee President



Mr. Hilifa Mbako First Vice President



Mr. Zebra Kasete Second Vice President

The Chamber of Mines wishes them all the best during their tenure of office as they drive the objectives of the Chamber in growing Namibia's mining industry.



- Reverse Circulation drilling (120 152mm)
- Surface wire-line diamond core drilling (sizes: BQ, NQ/NQ3, HQ/HQ3 & PQ/PQ3)
- Geotechnical drilling Grade control drilling
- Water well drilling up to 254mm diameter
- Grouting, gravel packing and cement seals Auger drilling
- Blast hole drilling (51mm to 165mm)

#### **BACKUP AND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT**

comprehensively equipped workshops and technical support networks. Field service technicians are available to maintain, repair, build and modify all equipment to ensure minimal operational downtime.

#### CLIENT REFERENCES

#### **NAMIBIA**

- B2Gold
- Kunene Resources
- Rossing Uranium \* Husab Uranium
- Langer Heinrich Uranium \* NAMDEB

#### **SOUTH AFRICA**

- Glencore \* BHP Billiton Xstrata \* Umcebo Mining
- UMK (United Manganese Kalahari)\*Jindal

#### **BOTSWANA**

Gecko Drilling and Blasting (Pty) Ltd. is a 100% Namibian owned company specializing in the provision of exploration drilling and drill & blast services to the mining, quarrying and civil construction industries. The Company's main office and workshop facilities are strategically located at Nonidas, Swakopmund. Services include efficient and cost-effective exploration, drill & blasting as well as mining and geological consultancy. Gecko has a wealth of knowledge and experience gained over many years of operation on numerous projects across the African sub-continent. With the Company's dedicated and experienced team at hand, we are committed to ensuring that client's

General Manager: **CONTACT US Operations Director:** Kobus Mulder

# BANNERMAN RESOURCES NAMIBIA AND THE ONE ECONOMY FOUNDATION LAYING THE FOUNDATION FOR HARAMBEE



PATIENCE IS A VIRTUE. THIS IS AS TRUE IN MINING AS IT IS IN DRIVING SOCIAL CHANGE WHERE HARD WORK, DETERMINATION AND ACHIEVING GOALS MAY TAKE TIME, WITH MILESTONES NOT ALWAYS COMING AS QUICKLY AS ONE WOULD LIKE.

Preparing for future success starts with laying a solid foundation, which requires smart partnerships, time, trust and multiple steps. Along the way, there are moments that can be celebrated. One such moment was 18 July 2017, when Bannerman Resources Namibia issued shares to the One Economy Foundation, as a tangible expression of the company's dedication to their partnership and to the goals that the two organizations share for Namibia's future.

On hand for the exchange were Bannerman Resources Namibia's Managing Director, Mr Werner Ewald, Non-Executive Director, Ms Twapewa Kadhikwa, and Senior Stakeholder Relations Advisor, Ms Matjiua Hengua.

Representing the One Economy Foundation was Ms Uajorokisa Akwenye the Chief Executive Officer and Member of the Board of Directors, Ms Kauna Ndilula.

At the handover, Werner Ewald expressed the thoughts shared by all those at Bannerman Resources Namibia: "We are looking forward to working with the One Economy Foundation to make a meaningful difference in many lives; not only the people who work on the mine but communities throughout the Erongo Region and beyond."

ONE's Chief Executive Officer, Uajorokisa Akwenye, emphasized the Foundation's continuous efforts in seeking

sustainable funding and noted that this opportunity allows for the long-term sustainability of programmes. She also noted the spirit in which Bannerman handled the negotiations as a positive step forward in the partnership. "We also look forward to the work that the One Economy Foundation and Bannerman can do together to address social inequalities through creating opportunities," Akwenye added.

Ms Kauna Ndilula echoed Akwenye's sentiments, adding, "As a Director, I, together with my colleagues, am committed to ensuring that your investment is applied to the purpose of the One Economy Foundation. We recognize the need for structured interventions in order for more Namibians to transition from the second to the first economy and appreciate partnerships that assist us to realise this dream.

Completing the event, a share certificate, representing 5% shareholding in Bannerman Resources Namibia, was handed over to the One Economy Foundation.

Honourable Obeth Kandjoze, Minister of Mines and Energy, said of Bannerman's initiative in March this year, "Growth in the mining sector is critical to Namibia's economic and social development. Therefore, I applaud this partnership between Bannerman Resources and the One Economy Foundation as a strong example of how the benefits of mining can be used to achieve our aim of Social Progression across all sectors of our society."

The foundation for the partnership between Bannerman Resources Namibia and the One Economy Foundation is now firmly in place, waiting with purpose and patience for the tide to turn upwards in uranium prices and for mining to begin.



# EMPLOYEES AT NAMDEB OPEN UP THEIR HEARTS TO THE BETHANIE COMMUNITY

IN APRIL 2017, NAMDEB LAUNCHED ITS ANNUAL WINTER DRIVE TO SUPPORT THE LESS FORTUNATE. EMPLOYEES, FROM ACROSS THE BUSINESS PLAYED THEIR PART AND DONATED BLANKETS, CLOTHES, NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS, STATIONERY, TOYS AND READING BOOKS VALUED AT APPROXIMATELY N\$15 000.

As part of Namdeb's contribution to the Karas Region, the items were donated to the Bethanie-Our -Pride -Project. The project is led by Dawid Isaacs and Johannes Fredericks. The handover, which included items from other organisations, took place on the 8 July 2017 and benefited over 300 Bethanie community members.

During a brief meeting prior to the handover, Pauline Thomas, Namdeb's Corporate Affairs Manager had this to say to Mr. Fredericks "...on behalf of all Namdeb employees, please accept our humble contribution. It is in the spirit of doing the right things today for a better tomorrow that we continue to support the region that we operate in..."









# NAMDEB'S SOUTHERN COASTAL MINE WARRIORS WEATHER THE STORM

#### DURING THE WINTER MONTHS, NAMDEB OPERATIONS HAVE TO PREPARE THEMSELVES ACCORDINGLY AS THE ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS CAN IMPACT THE OPERATION.

During June 2017, Namdeb's Southern Coastal Mine (SCM) teams collaboratively worked around the clock to protect the active mines and seawalls against a storm that was reported to be approaching. The storm was the same one that brought widespread damage to the Western Cape in South Africa bringing along high winds and monstrous waves. The storm's wind strength at reaching the Southern Coastal Mines were not as strong as those reaching other parts of the west coast, however, some waves were over eight meters tall.

The storm allowed Namdeb to trial the new beach nourishment project, which is a revised accretion method. The new method pushes the beach westward across the length of the mining area rather than focusing primarily on the groynes. The beach nourishment platforms create a buffer or defense in front of the seawalls. This causes the

waves to break further away from the seawalls and hereby reduces the wave energy that reaches the seawalls.

Various teams at Namdeb Southern Coastal Mine worked around the clock to prepare for the storm, defending and then repairing the areas where some damage was observed, all in all a great effort across all the teams. As the storm hit Southern Coastal Mines on 7 June 2017, waves increased throughout the evening, reaching a peak around midnight. Large waves persisted through the early hours of 8 June, however, the seawall stood secure and firm.

The beach nourishment approach was effective and Namdeb can proudly position the Southern Coastal Mines team as an example of how innovation combined with the values of safety, teamwork, accountability and respect (STAR) have resulted in a success!



### Erongo Career Fair

12 & 13 September 2017

Mondesa Multipurpose Centre

Swakopmund 08:00 to 18:00

Your choice of a career should be an informed decision!

Launch of the NUA career booklet - learn more about career and study opportunities in the uranium mining industry

To book your school's visit contact:
To book your exhibitor's stand contact:

Ms Ailly Namupala
Communications Officer
Namibian Uranium Association

Tel: 064 402393 Fax: 064 402394

email: info@namibianuranium.org

Out-of-school youth and parents are welcome!









# JACKY KAMATI TAKING ON THE WORLD OF MINING

TAKING ON THE WORLD OF MINING

JACKY KAMATI, A FOREMAN AT THE RÖSSING URANIUM MINE, HAS AN AMBITIOUS GOAL FOR WOMEN EMPLOYEES WHO ARE SET TO FOLLOW IN HER FOOTSTEPS WITH POTENTIAL CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AT RIO TINTO.

Since starting out at 19 years of age, as one of only two women working at the processing plant during this time, Jacky has seen many changes during her 13 years at Rössing. Now she wants to see more women taking on leadership roles throughout Rio Tinto.

The editor of the Chamber of Mines' quarterly newsletter, Lauren Davidson, caught up with Jacky for a chat about how she found her feet in mining.

#### Q. Mining is considered to be a male-dominated industry. Describe your experience as a female leader in mining?

When I started at Rössing, I was just 19 years old. I was one of the first two ladies in the processing plant. We were generally part of a very small group of women on site, slowly trying to break into the world of mining in operational roles. My opinion wasn't always asked, appreciated or accepted by some I worked with, but I have to say that within Rio Tinto there's always been great support generally for me as a woman in mining.

Once you show that you can handle what some may consider "the rough and tough world of mining in a desert," all that ultimately matters is getting the job done. The rest is history: I grabbed every opportunity to develop my skills and grow professionally and eventually took on leadership roles in a very male oriented environment.

#### Q. Have you had any other challenges during your career?

An added challenge for me was that we have very diverse cultures in Namibia, with diverse ideas of a woman's role at work and at home. I believe that if you overemphasise on your colleagues' cultural backgrounds in trying to work together, you may start developing prejudices and eventually undermine each other. It is important however to be sensitive to each other's

differences. For me, in the end, if you can illustrate that you can do the job required, you earn the trust of everyone around you. But it took time and maybe it takes a little longer for a woman in mining to be accepted than for a man.

Before I got to a place where I felt like I was treated as an equal, there were some tears in between the laughter and learning but ultimately, a whole lot of job satisfaction. I'd like to believe that these days, it's perhaps a little bit easier for women to find their feet in mining.

#### Q. Why is inclusion and diversity at work important to you?

The way I look at it is, if our customer base is diverse, we need diversity in our workforce, so that we can learn from our own diversity to make ourselves more effective at meeting the needs of our clients. I, as an African (Setswana) female, will never be Australian or Chinese, for example.

But if I'm in a diverse work group where we can actually talk about and learn from each other's cultural differences, then I can learn to relate and respond better to the needs of my Australian and Chinese business partners. I do not see productivity, progress and continuous improvement being achieved if everyone thinks and acts in the same way.

#### Q. What's the one change you'd like to see in inclusion and diversity at work?

I think we're on the right path. But the more female representation we have at leadership level, the more robust I believe our business will be. We can always improve on that.

#### Q. What do you enjoy most about your work?

For me it's one of the most basic tasks in the plant – housekeeping! I love doing housekeeping in the plant with



my team. At our operations housekeeping is essential. We spot and address safety and operational risks, identify emerging issues, work to improve our efficiency and always try to keep the plant running no matter what.

After some time off at home, when you come back well-rested, for me, few things are more encouraging than a clean, up-and-running, uranium-producing plant. So that's how we want to leave it for those teams that come after us. It feels so good to work in a space that is clean, risk-free and geared to deliver maximum productivity. Once you lose your grip on housekeeping, it just piles up and you lose control! This means production gets impacted and we fall behind on our targets. I'm very driven to make sure my team is not responsible for any delays in the production process.

#### Q. Are you a hands-on leader?

The more time you spend with your team, the more you get to know them. Eventually, you know them so well that if there's a problem outside of work, you will pick it up immediately. I spend much of my time joining my team, doing what I expect the team to do, with or without me being there.

I encourage them, and share my experience and knowledge of operational control and safety. I also try to be proactive, constantly discussing improvement ideas with my team and understanding what is expected of us from the company.

#### Q. What gets you inspired to get up and come to work each day? (Aside from housekeeping of course!)

To contribute to a greater good: developing the socioeconomic wellbeing of my community and hence my own family. That's the reason I'm here.

#### Q. What makes you proud to work for Rössing?

Rössing is the first mining company that I know of in my country that started placing a very strong emphasis on safety education

and enforcing it in the workplace. We are still continuously looking for better ways to work and achieve zero harm. Other mines are beginning to follow our example, but we have always been known for our high safety standards.

But Rössing has been a pioneer in Namibian mining on many fronts. I'm proud to be empowered as a female leader in the company, to receive equal opportunities and to contribute to our success. And I'm very proud to say that, for female representation in leadership positions, and in fact in general, Rössing is again setting the standard in Namibia!

### Q. How does the uranium produced at Rössing support the local community and society as a whole? How does it feel to be part of that?

Rio Tinto and Rössing's corporate vision has always transcended the scope of mining. We understand that, in order to be successful, we must support the advancement of communities by making contributions in the environment in which we operate. We strive to build enduring relationships based on open, respectful, and trustworthy communication, which promote better understanding of our impact on the social and physical environment, and ensure a significant contribution to economic and social development.

Since being established as Namibia's first uranium mine more than 40 years ago, we have always acknowledged that operating within a sustainable community provides our business distinct benefits. These include skilled and locally-available employees; capable, local suppliers of goods and services; access to sustainably managed natural resources; and healthy and safe environments for our employees and their families. With these ends in mind, I am proud to be part of implementing long-term, community development plans that focus on improvements in the quality of life for all our stakeholders!



FROM WEST COAST AFRICA TO EAST COAST AUSTRALIA MIGHT SEEM A LONG WAY, BUT FOR FLORIAN HARTZENBERG IT WAS A RELATIVELY EASY STEP.

Earlier this year Florian was busy working as a management accountant at Rio Tinto Rössing Uranium. However, when an opportunity came up to take a six month secondment in Australia, Florian jumped at the chance. And he proved that the step from Namibia to Brisbane wasn't really that hard.

Rio Tinto Coal Australia's chief financial officer, Simon Ellinor, was looking to fill a short term role in his Brisbane team. He put out a call for assistance to Rio Tinto Energy & Mineral's Finance team and Rössing's chief financial officer, Shaan Van Schalkwyk, raised the prospect with Florian. He was quick to volunteer and today he is Specialist Finance, for Rio Tinto Coal Australia, based in Brisbane.

"It was an opportunity too good to pass up," said Florian. "It gave me the chance for international exposure to one of Rio's larger businesses and I'm gaining new skills to share with my colleagues back in Namibia. And while I'm in Brisbane, my second in charge back home is also on a learning curve, taking up the reins to act in my place."

Switching from uranium to coal was not without its challenges. The similarities of Rio's base business systems across the various product groups made it easy to adapt, and the concept of open-cut coal mining was nothing new to Florian. But it was a different matter when it came to talking about longwall retreat and development metres at an underground operation like Rio's Kestrel mine in central Queensland.

Florian was quick to adapt, however, and he will soon have the chance to become more familiar with Rio's coal operations when he travels to the Hail Creek mine for a site visit.

Rio Tinto Coal Australia's Chief financial officer, Simon Ellinor, welcomed Florian to the finance team. "Florian brings a great deal of experience in performance reporting within Rio Tinto, so we knew he would be able to hit the ground running', he said. "Sure enough, he's quickly come up to speed and has proven to be a great asset to the team in Brisbane."

In his spare time, Florian is busy getting to know his adopted city, cruising the Brisbane river and wandering the beautiful botanical gardens near his city apartment. While home is over 12,000km away, technology makes it easy for him to keep in touch with his family. Florian's wife visited recently and he was able to showcase his temporary home with a drive through the lush green hinterland of the Gold Coast to the beaches of Surfer's Paradise.

The highlight was a visit to the Koala Sanctuary to get to know some of Australia's iconic wildlife first hand including coming face-to-face with a kangaroo. A visit to the Sunshine Coast is next on the to-do list.

While Florian is enjoying life in Brisbane, he is still looking forward to returning home, to share the business practices and learnings from his Australian experience with his colleagues at Rössing. More importantly, he's counting down the days to when he can be reunited with his family. And there's something else he's looking forward to.

Not many people know that Florian is a master pizza maker. His specialty? A Debonaire's triple decker. When he goes home to Namibia, he'll be back helping out in the family- owned pizza business on the weekends.



# Living Our Values

Four CSR focal areas

www.b2gold.com



Health



Education





B2Gold's Corporate Social Responsibility Programme aims to promote responsible mining in a sustainable manner. The gold deposit at Otjikoto Mine belongs to the Namibian people and is a finite resource so we aim to invest in projects which have a long term, lasting impact. Our CSR strategy is based on an ongoing assessment of the socio-economic environment in which the mine operates and through regular meetings with stakeholders at local, regional and national level, we are able to understand and focus our support in the most effective manner. The CSR strategic objectives are in line with the Namibian government's development plans and Vision 2030.

We support projects which aim to lead to long-term impacts that:

- contribute to economic upliftment and poverty reduction through skills training and livelihood development;
- promote educational opportunities, capacity building, innovation and technical excellence;
- promote health and well-being by complementing and supplementing government's efforts;
- empower communities, groups and entrepreneurs to help themselves;
- contribute to the sustainable utilisation of Namibia's renewable natural resources (energy, flora & fauna);
- improve environmental management and biodiversity conservation of indigenous ecosystems and endangered species.









#### EMPLOYEE PARENTING SKILLS

Over 90 B2Gold employees have attended parenting classes for their zero to six-year-old children with the BrainBoosters Programme.

#### SAVE THE RHINO TRUST

B2Gold is contributing N\$3 million to Save the Rhino Trust to adequately compensate and equip SRT's rangers to reduce wildlife crime and to ensure the long-term security of desert adapted black rhino in Namibia

#### KAYEC'S YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME IN OTJIWARONGO

B2Gold enables the Otjiwarongo KYD programme to provide after-school support to help 188 disadvantaged teens (of which 50% are girls) to stay in school and build their life skills.

#### BUILDING CLASSROOMS

Some of the pre-fabricated accommodation blocks in the B2Gold construction camp have been converted into 16 classrooms at three schools in Otavi.









#### SMES COMPETE OFFICE IN OTJIWARONGO

SMEs Compete routinely provides advice, mentoring and training to improve the entrepreneurial, management, marketing, and IT skills of 80 SMEs in our focal towns of Otavi and Otjiwarongo.

#### EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

With Lifeline/Childline, B2Gold is complementing government efforts to improve quality early childhood care in kindergartens in our focus towns of Otavi and Otjiwarongo.

#### THE NAMIBIAN CHAMBER OF ENVIRONMENT

The Namibian Chamber of Environment is the brainchild of B2Gold and has been handed over for democratic management to the environmental fraternity. B2Gold has provided seeding capital of N\$1 million to the NCE.

#### PHARMACCESS MOBILE "MISTER SISTER" CLINIC

This B2Gold sponsored mobile clinic delivers a full range of primary healthcare to patients in informal settlements around Windhoek. The clinic also teaches parents about the critical importance of a child's early development – the first 1,000 days of life (from conception to two years of age).

Contact: Ignasius /Awaseb - CSR Manager Email: iawaseb@b2gold.com | Tel: +264 (0) 61 295 8700



# THE RÖSSING FOUNDATION

### A PIONEER IN BROAD BASED CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY INITIATIVES

THE MAIN VEHICLE OF RÖSSING URANIUM MINE'S CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY INITIATIVES, THE RÖSSING FOUNDATION, HAS BEEN CONTRIBUTING TO NAMIBIA'S SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR 39 YEARS, STANDING THE TEST OF TIME THROUGH URANIUM PRICE BOOMS AND BUSTS. THE RÖSSING FOUNDATION WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1978 THROUGH A DEED OF TRUST, TO CARRY OUT AND OVERSEE THE MINE'S CSR INITIATIVES AND PROGRAMMES.

Throughout its existence, the Foundation has become a pioneer in implementing CSR initiatives, the activities of which are driven through the values of enhancing national productivity and life-long learning. The Foundation's primary objective is to develop targeted self-sustaining communities in Namibia through education, training, innovation and enterprise development.

Most projects implemented by the Foundation address longterm structural issues, but are dynamic in their ability to evolve and change, enabling them to address relevant development challenges and issues. The Foundation has achieved remarkable milestones in crosscutting areas of national development, through the establishment of various agricultural and educational centres throughout Namibia as well as targeted support to selected schools.

For more than ten years, the Foundation has been actively involved and supported the Arandis sustainability drive. The Rössing Foundation provides support to the Arandis Town Council, from managing finances to attracting investment to the town, through a shared vision to ensure the town continues

to operate beyond the life span of the existing uranium mines. SME development and microfinancing are among the many projects employed to enhance entrepreneurship and job creation in Arandis.

The microfinancing scheme has been successful in bridging the gap in access to finance for less privileged entrepreneurs who do not have collateral. Other notable achievements include the establishment of a fuel station; through a partnership between the Foundation, Arandis Town Council and Puma. The investment into Arandis Puma Service Station attracted and instilled trust and confidence in investors which resulted in the establishment of two new shopping centres, improved health services for residents, land and water supply as well as waste removal.

The Foundation achieved remarkable milestones in advancing maths, science and english at schools situated in the Erongo, Oshana and Omaheke Regions. Consistently poor performance by students and critical skills shortages in these subjects presented a strong case for intervention by the Education degrees in the fields of english, mathematics and science and technology. The Foundation in partnership with the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture, National Institute for Education Development (NIED), Erongo Regional Council, the Ministry of Mines and Energy and Arandis Town Council aim to better the standard and quality of education delivery in Namibia through its outreach, learner and teacher support programmes as well as through enterprise development support to SMEs, Agriculture and Small Scale Miners.

The Foundation has established three education centres in Arandis, Swakopmund and Ondangwa, all providing centralised support to learners and teachers alike. Each centre has facilities for learning and enhancing skills in maths, science and english along with a fully equipped library. The outreach programme seeks to improve management and governance skills in regional education directorates and the quality education delivery in more remote areas of the country through support and training provided to teachers.

Another component of the Foundation's education drive is the teacher support programme, which focuses on improving curriculum delivery to students in equipping teachers with skills in maths, science and english. In 2016, 645 teachers received training, improving their knowledge of certain subjects and educating them on how to improve the design and application of practical science experiments and worksheets for students as well as lesson planning and preparation. Improving the skills and knowledge of one teacher stands to benefit at least 30

learners. While the initial training is central, the impact of teacher development is broad-based through improving the quality of education received by a large number of students.

Such education initiatives and innovations have produced impressive results since 2006. The education centres supported 514 students in 2016, from grades seven to 12. Forty-nine per cent achieved scores ranging from A to C in mathematics, english and the science national examinations. The significance of these achievements lies in the opportunities they offer students, which allow them to qualify for acceptance at tertiary institutions in Namibia and internationally.

Despite significant financial difficulties experienced in 2014, 2015 and 2016, due to persistently low uranium prices, the Foundation launched the first innovative Mobile Laboratory. This initiative, mainly sponsored by Nedbank Namibia and further supported by Hollard Namibia, Aon, Dunlop and Total Namibia, consists of one vehicle operating in remote areas of Namibia. The Mobile Laboratory aims to reach students and teachers who do not have access to the centrally located Rössing Foundation Education Centres, mimicking the services and support provided by them. The Mobile Laboratory initiative celebrated its first full year of operation in 2016, visiting 39 schools and resource centres located in seven regions throughout Namibia.

Small-scale miners in the Erongo Region also receive extensive support from the Foundation in partnership with government, through the provision of infrastructure, equipment and training of small-scale miners in various skills, including business management.

Since 2011, Rössing Uranium and the Foundation spent over N\$100 million on surrounding communities and socio-economic development initiatives, a testament to the mine's commitment in cultivating sustainable livelihood mechanisms, the benefits of which will continue beyond the lifespan of the mine.

The Rössing Foundation and its projects are exemplary of the many mechanisms used by the mining sector in Namibia to assist the country in achieving its development objectives as laid out in NDP5, Vision 2030 and the Harambee Prosperity Plan. The Foundation is noteworthy, not only in its operational longevity, but also in the milestones it has achieved and the integration of other regional communities beyond the Erongo area with the vision of broad-based socio-economic development for Namibia. •



14 · SEPTEMBER 2017 · www.chamberofmines.org.na

### ORANJEMUND OPENS TO PUBLIC

### PUBLISHED BY THE NEW ERA NEWSPAPER ON 28/07/2017

IT IS OFFICIAL THAT THE TOWN OF ORANJEMUND IS NOW RUN BY A PUBLIC TOWN COUNCIL AND IS OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC TO VISIT. AS OF OCTOBER 14 2017, THE PUBLIC WILL BE ABLE TO VISIT THE TOWN OF ORANJEMUND WITHOUT ACQUIRING FIRST ACCESS PERMIT TO ENTER, THE TOWN COUNCIL SAID IN A STATEMENT ISSUED IN JULY 2017.

Further, the council confirmed that Oranjemund residents will, as of September 2017, start paying for municipal services, as do all residents in other towns across the country.

"Council has put all systems in place to ensure accurate billing of all municipal services," the statement read.

"The aim of the payment of services is to support council development plans, as well as to normalise the operation of the town," it said.

Oranjemund – meaning "Mouth of the Oranje" in German for its close proximity to the mouth of the Orange river – was established in 1936 by the then Consolidated Diamond Mines (CDM). It has been a closed privately owned town, and existed purely for the purpose of diamond mining operations and the mine provided all services.

Namdeb, the successor of CDM, took over ownership of the mine after independence. Namdeb is the 50/50 joint venture diamond mining company between De Beers and the Namibian government.

As such, the residents of Oranjemund town have never paid for municipal services since the establishment of the town. The town council is now asking that all residents and private enterprises that have not yet opened accounts with the council, to "do so as a matter of urgency, failure of which punitive measures shall be applied to every case reported".

Oranjemund was proclaimed a town council in 2011 and established a local authority in 2012. The council has now finalised an agreement on the transfer of assets, properties and municipal services and infrastructures that would enable the council to function independently of Namdeb, who is the current owner of the town.

The council further says the Agreement on the transfer of assets and infrastructure "also focus on the property ownership for the residents of the town, [as it allows residents] to buy current properties in Oranjemund under the town transformation." As part of the transformation agenda of the town, there is a 15-year collaborative programme of works, called Oranjemund 2030, which has been designed to drive the town's transformation agenda. A steering committee is driving the programme.

"The aim of the programme is to remodel and reshape Oranjemund's socio-economic conditions from an entirely privately owned, single economy to multi-faceted, publicly owned sustainable and thriving town," the council said.

# BIRD COUNTS IN WALVIS BAY WETLAND

AS PART OF LIVING OUR CORE VALUES, WALVIS BAY SALT HOLDINGS ARE PROUD TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH THE BI-ANNUAL BIRD COUNT IN THE WALVIS BAY WETLANDS. WE ARE STRIVING TOWARDS EXCELLENCE IN OUR WORK ENVIRONMENT BY BEING ACCOUNTABLE THROUGH OUR ACTIONS IN PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT WE OPERATE IN.

The Walvis Bay Wetland was declared a Ramsar Wetland of International Importance in 1995. The Ramsar Convention is an international treaty created in 1971 to support national action and international cooperation in the conservation and wise use of wetlands worldwide. The Walvis Bay Wetland is considered the most important coastal habitat of its kind in Southern Africa and amongst the top three in Africa.

The first count of bird populations in the Walvis Bay lagoon area was done in 1976 by the Western Cape Wader Study Group and with that the foundation was laid for the counts that followed.

Owing to the significance of the wetland site, ornithologists wanted to know how many birds in total were supported by the site and also how many stayed behind during the winter months. For this reason bi-annual counts were instituted and conducted for the first time in August 1983, with the first winter count, followed by the first summer count in November 1983. Since then Walvis Bay's significance for birds has regularly been highlighted in a series of reports and papers.

Now 41 years later this project is managed by Peter Bridgeford from the Coastal and Environmental Trust of Namibia (CETN). The counts are done both in summer and in winter as many species migrate to the northern hemisphere in winter.

Besides being a fun day and learning experience for new participants, students and scholars, the counts collect valuable information about the number of birds, which in turn tells us about the health of the ecosystem. The figures are sent to the Ministry of Environment and Tourism. The information, together with all other counts in Namibia, is also shared with Wetlands International, based in England. The count results are also sent to Cape Town University and Prof Les Underhill and other scientists, who have published several scientific papers using these count figures.

The most recent winter count has just come to an end and the total count recorded 55 412 birds, which shows a significant decline of birds from the previous year's count of 174 838 birds. However, this is not the lowest winter count recorded in recent years. The 2009, 2011 and 2012 winter counts all had lower numbers.

It is important to Walvis Bay Salt Holdings to protect the birdlife and wetlands for future generations. With support from the many volunteers and local businesses, the count provides valuable scientific data and ensures the conservation of the wetland area and the many bird species it supports. The company is committed to this project as part of our Social Responsibility and proud to be associated with it. We look forward to the summer count in February 2018.





Continuous improvement in blasting cannot be achieved without accurately measuring the execution and results of blasts. BME uses the most modern suite of tools and software to quickly and accurately measure blast performance for improving your blast results significantly and definitively.

FOR EXPLOSIVES, THINK BME.





The Port of Walvis Bay was a hive of activity on 15 June 2017 when over 700 visitors descended on the coastal town of Walvis Bay, to witness the first live inauguration and naming ceremony of Debmarine Namibia's first constructed diamond exploration and sampling vessel, the mv SS Nujoma.

At the official inauguration attended by more than 500 invited guests, the Founding President and Father of the Namibian Nation, officially accepted the honour and reiterated his desire that the country's mineral resources be used for the benefit of all Namibians while safeguarding and preserving Namibian marine resources. Dr Nujoma applauded Debmarine Namibia for investing in youth development and said no country would progress unless it invests in its youth. He commended the Company for purposefully embarking on a strategic initiative, which focused on cultivating Namibian captains, each one trained from Matric at a cost of N\$11 million per candidate, to commandeer Debmarine Namibia mining vessels and ensuring the country fully benefits from its marine resources through local skills development.

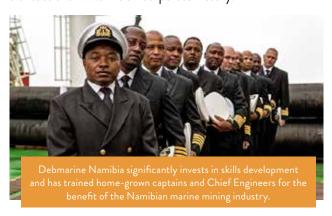
Delivering the keynote note address, Right Honorable Prime Minister Dr Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila encouraged innovation as per the theme of the event 'Investing in Innovation'. "We are witnessing first hand that the local mining industry is well-placed to lead the world in mining innovation, and there is consensus that true innovation will drive the next wave of productivity gains and financial growth. If we do not follow the innovation route, our extractive resources will become a curse instead of a blessing". She stressed that Namibia needs innovation to tackle various challenges in public sector service delivery and efficiency to increase productivity and employment in all sectors of the economy.

Commenting on the importance of the Government of Namibia and De Beers partnership, De Beers CEO Bruce Cleaver in his speech delivered on his behalf by De Beers Resident Director Daniel Kali, said the Debmarine Namibia partnership is the leading corporate tax contributor to the Namibia Treasury.

"Only SACU revenue surpasses our Partnership's contribution to the Namibia Treasury. In 2016, our Debmarine Namibia partnership contributed well over N\$ 3.7 Billion in taxes, royalty and dividend payment to the Namibian Treasury". He added that the mv SS Nujoma represents a strategic investment to ensure the sustainability of Debmarine Namibia operations and that the company continues to generate significant revenue for the Namibian Treasury and will certainly assist in meeting objectives contained in the economic progression pillar of the 5<sup>th</sup> National Development Plan (NDP5).

The ceremony was held in line with maritime traditions and the vessel was christened and the crew members blessed by Bishop Dr Kleopas Dumeni. The occasion was attended by several ministers, senior government officials, captains of industries, De Beers, Kleven Verft AS representatives and Debmarine Namibia employees to mention but a few. The mv SS Nujoma is the only dedicated exploration and sampling vessel in the Debmarine Namibia fleet. The Kleven Verft AS, Ulsteinvik in Norway built the 113-metre vessel and the outfitting was completed in Cape Town by the Debmarine Namibia and De Beers Marine South Africa teams.

The N\$2.3 billion state of the art vessel was funded by two local banks, Standard Bank Namibia and RMB Namibia funded 75% while 25% was financed by Debmarine Namibia. Namibia Chief Executive officer, Otto Shikongo said the mv SS Nujoma project constituted a landmark transaction as one of the largest transactions in Namibian corporate history.



Debmarine Namibia and MUN representatives witness the signing of the Substantive Agreement (2017 – 2019).



# GOOD LABOUR RELATIONS PAVE THE WAY FOR SIGNING OF 3-YEAR SUBSTANTIVE AGREEMENT

Debmarine Namibia and the Mineworkers Union of Namibia (MUN), successfully concluded wage negotiations. The Parties signed a three-year Substantive Agreement covering the period April 2017 – 31 March 2020. The Agreement is in respect of the sea-going and shore-based employees who fall within the MUN Bargaining Unit.

The leadership of the Union and the management of Debmarine Namibia mutually conceded on terms beneficial for both parties.

All parties displayed a spirit of mutual respect and focused on the bigger picture. The negotiating team comprised of Debmarine Namibia and MUN representatives.



#### DEBMARINE NAMIBIA

#### SPONSORS NETBALL NAMIBIA

Debmarine Namibia Management has approved yet another long-term sponsorship agreement in the area of youth, particularly sports development.

Debmarine Namibia embarked on a partnership entailing a three-year agreement with Netball Namibia in which it has committed a targeted sponsorship amounting to N\$ 1.8 million for the duration of the agreement (2017 to 2019).

The funds will be allocated toward the following Netball Namibia activities:

- Annual Senior National Netball Championships
- Annual Netball Pent Series (5 Nations Tournament): played by Namibia, Botswana, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
- Regional League Grants at N\$ 10 000 per region.
- · Training of Umpires, and the
- · Development of the first Netball Namibia website.

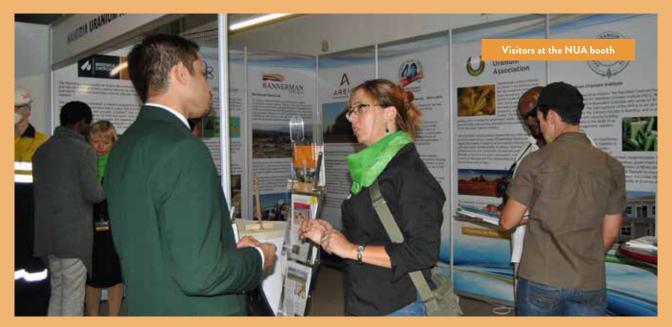
Netball is a popular and elite female sports code that is predominately played by young Namibian school students. The decision to support this sports code was evoked through appeals by Government to the corporate world for assistance in developing Namibian sports and youth

Delivering the keynote address, the Deputy Minister of

Sports, Youth and National Service, Honourable Agnes Tjongarero said: "I sincerely thank Debmarine Namibia for rescuing netball in Namibia." The Deputy Minister explained that there are over 54 different sports codes in Namibia, which Government alone will not be able to sustain and or cater for, hence their reliance on corporate companies to assist in sports development."

The Deputy Minister, further thanked Debmarine Namibia for acknowledging the dire straits of netball in Namibia saying, "Debmarine Namibia has acknowledged the importance of developing the most elite female sport in this country. They have acknowledged the role of women by empowering the girl-child as leaders of this country. Netball has the ability to instil discipline in a girl, refocus a girl – prevent teenage pregnancies and allow the girl to prosper. There are many opportunities for the girl-child, by just being involved with Netball, therefore it is important that we invest in this sport."

Debmarine Namibia Chief Executive Officer reconfirmed that "as a responsible corporate citizen, Debmarine Namibia believes in bringing diamond dreams into reality. We therefore strongly believe that these two sports sponsorships (Netball and Football) will without doubt foster socioeconomic benefits for communities, thereby realising the hopes of many, during these challenging times." •



# THE NAMIBIAN URANIUM ASSOCIATION

AT THE 2017 CHAMBER OF MINES MINING EXPO & CONFERENCE

The Namibian Uranium Association (NUA) is the advocacy body representing the Namibian uranium industry exclusively. Members include all Namibian uranium mining operations, Namibia's leading uranium exploration companies, and associated contractors. NUA is the leading point of contact for government, media, stakeholders, the general public and anybody interested in the position and policies of the Namibian uranium industry. Members of NUA stand for international best practices and accept product stewardship as a pillar that supports the overarching concept of Sustainable Development. In this way the Association makes a lasting contribution to the socio-economic development of Namibia while at the same time minimizing the environmental footprint and promoting the Namibian uranium brand.

Exploration and mining companies involved in the Namibian uranium sector have fully recognized that managing environmental issues, radiation, health and safety, and waste is of paramount importance in order to protect staff, the general public and the receiving environment. Responsible management

of uranium mining and processing applies at all stages from planning, exploration, development and construction to operations, transport and finally decommissioning. This can best be achieved in a coordinated way with interaction of all players involved, and it is for that reason that NUA members work closely together.

This was also reflected in the joint booth that NUA members displayed at this year's Chamber of Mines Mining Expo. A clear message about NUA's objectives and the purpose and work of its Namibian Uranium Institute (NUI) was given, together with information about Namibia's uranium mining operations and leading uranium exploration companies.

The good cooperation of all role players in maintaining international best practice as a minimum standard, and often setting even higher standards, was emphasized, and visitors to the booth learned about joint efforts of the various companies with reference to environmental accountability, sustainable development and corporate social responsibility.







The NUA team with Areva's Christine de Klerk

Dr. Schneider presenting the NUI 2016 Annual Review

The NUA booth



THE ERONGO DESALINATION PLANT CELEBRATED A NEW SAFETY RECORD OF SEVEN YEARS WITHOUT ANY INJURIES OR LOST-TIME ACCIDENTS IN JUNE AND ACHIEVED ITS NEW WATER PRODUCTION TARGET OF ONE MILLION CUBIC METRES PER MONTH FOR THE FIRST TIME IN JULY 2017.

Plant Manager Antony Kostopoulos attributed these achievements to AVENG Water's focus on accountability, communication and teamwork. The AVENG group's safety motto is "Home without harm everyone, every day" and this is being applied in the daily operation of the site. AVENG Water has implemented very stringent safety standards for all its operations. That is why all their water treatment plants are OHSAS 18001 certified by NOSA affiliates and independent auditors NQA Africa.

#### A UNIQUE ASSET IN THE REGION

The Erongo Desalination Plant is located at Wlotzkasbaken, 35 kilometres north of Swakopmund, is 100% owned by AREVA Resources Namibia. One of only two – and the largest – desalination plant in sub-Saharan Africa, the plant was originally built to supply water to the Trekkopje Mine of AREVA Resources Namibia. Inaugurated in 2010, the plant can currently produce 20 million cubic meters of desalinated water a year, and can easily be upgraded to 26 million cubic metres per year within the existing buildings.

Additional investment could double the water production capacity within the plant perimeter, at a fraction of the cost of building a separate desalination plant. AVENG Water's operational staff complement currently consists of 21 employees on day shift and 8 on rotating shifts. 97% of the employees are Namibians. They are housed in nearby towns and commute to the plant in company transport.

#### STATE OF THE ART TECHNOLOGY

The seawater desalination process combines ultrafiltration and reverse osmosis – the most efficient method of desalinating seawater on an industrial scale. The first step in the process is the collection of seawater with an intake unit anchored one kilometre off the coast at a depth of 10 metres. To remove

aquatic plants and animals, the seawater is passed through a screen that catches anything larger than 40mm in diameter, thus removing large debris.

The seawater is then disinfected, and any micro-organisms and particles in suspension are removed by means of a multistage ultrafiltration system that progressively eliminates particles from 60 micrometres down to 0.01 micrometres in diameter. The next step in the desalination process, reverse osmosis, separates the seawater into two streams, desalinated water and brine. The brine is returned by gravity to the Atlantic Ocean where it disperses, while the pure water is passed through a limestone saturator that adds the essential minerals. Upon exiting the reverse osmosis system the still highly pressurized brine drives a pressure exchanger to recover the otherwise lost energy, thereby reducing the plant's energy bill by approximately 40%.

#### WHAT ABOUT THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT?

The main environmental concern related to the seawater desalination process is the return of brine to the ocean. With a salt concentration twice as high as seawater it is feared that the brine may affect any creatures living on the seabed around the outlet pipe. The brine stream drains by gravity into a pipe that ends 600 metres offshore where the water depth is about 6 metres. This pipe is buried from the desalination plant through the surf zone and along a part of the seabed. The end of the discharge pipe has been designed with special dispersion nozzles to ensure effective blending of the brine with the seawater so that the mixing zone is as small as possible. The marine environment is monitored to assess the impact of brine discharge as required by the MET-approved environmental management plan for the Erongo Desalination Plant.

As part of the monitoring programme, AVENG Water has supported an MSc study. The main conclusion of the study



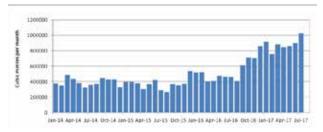
was that the recorded salinities for all sites and all depths were within the same range as the reference sites and that the actual dilution of the discharged brine appeared to be far greater than predicted by modelling. Inspections of the outfall pipe by divers indicated that the water quality has not affected the growth of marine life in the vicinity of the outlet pipeline. Photos taking during rare periods of good visibility showed mussels and other organism growing directly on the diffuser pipes. Further monitoring will be carried out to assess the impact of increased brine discharge volumes.

SUPPLYING WATER TO THE ERONGO REGION

Seeing that AREVA's Trekkopje mine is currently under care and maintenance some of the spare capacity of the desalination plant can be used to alleviate the water shortage in the Erongo Region. It is an important water source for the central coast via NamWater's distribution network, supplying the existing uranium mines and the ever-expanding municipalities. The plant has become critical to the Erongo Region in that it makes up the shortfall between the need of the coastal region and the volume that the groundwater resources can sustainably supply.

Since August 2013 the plant, via NamWater, has supplied almost 20 million cubic metres of water and currently supplies 12 million

cubic metres per annum. In the absence of this water source, uranium mines, industry and businesses would have suffered from water restrictions when the groundwater abstraction from the Omdel wellfield in the Omaruru River had to be reduced. As such, the desalination plant has a massive positive impact on the regional and national economy. Investments and new projects in all sectors depend on the existence of a reliable water supply system. The Erongo desalination plant can thus be seen as a magnet for foreign and domestic investors.



#### ERONGO DESALINATION PLANT MONTHLY PRODUCTION 2014-2017

More information about the Erongo Desalination Plant and Trekkopje Mine can be found in AREVA Namibia's Report to Stakeholders 2016 that is available on <a href="www.areva.com">www.areva.com</a> or on the website of the Namibian Uranium Institute <a href="www.namibianuranium.org">www.namibianuranium.org</a>.





### 25 & 26 April 2018

Windhoek Show Grounds Windhoek, Namibia

www.chamberofmines.org.na
PROUDLY SPONSORED BY THE CHAMBER OF MINES OF NAMIBIA

### 25 & 26 April 2018

Don't miss out! Diarise now!

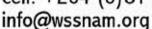






Contact Loide Armas for more information

Tel: + 264 (0)61 224 748 Cell: +264 (0)81 242 6606





# INVESTING IN A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR ALL NAMIBIANS

Debmarine Namibia is proud to be a significant contributor to the national treasury and the global leader in **marine diamond mining**.



O DEBMARINE NAMIBIA

A NAMIBIA DE BEERS PARTNERSHIP



1B Namibia is a division of First National Bank of Namibia Ltd.