

MEDIA RELEASE

(Statistician-General & CEO reappointed for another 5 year term)

31 May 2021

For immediate release

NSA BOARD REAPPOINTS STATISTICIAN-GENERAL & CEO

1. The Board of the Namibia Statistics Agency is pleased to announce the reappointment of Mr. Alex Shimuafeni as Statistician-General and CEO of the Namibia Statistics Agency, for an additional 5 year term effective 1 April 2021 till 31 March 2026. This decision has been done in close consultation with the Director-General of the National Planning Commission and has been endorsed by Cabinet of Republic of Namibia.
2. There are various factors that the NSA Board considered for arriving at this decision and these factors included the statistical production and dissemination (which is the core mandate of NSA), as well as the financial management of the Agency.
3. With regard to statistical production and dissemination thereof, the Board was pleased to note that under the leadership of Mr. Shimuafeni, that NSA has consistently produced regular spatial, economic and demographic statistics. Some of the notable **new statistics** that were added to the portfolio of the NSA statistics are:
 - (i) Producer Price Index;
 - (ii) Wage Index;
 - (iii) The publication of the monthly Zonal CPIs;
 - (iv) The release of the National Household Income and Expenditure Survey (NHIES) in 2016;
 - (v) Expansion of Sectoral Reports;
 - (vi) Increase in the release of trade statistics from quarterly to monthly basis
 - (vii) Namibia Population based HIV Impact assessment survey (NAMPHIA) together with the Ministry of Health and Social Services;
 - (viii) Namibia Wellness Adolescent & Youth Survey (NAMWAYS) which was conducted together with the Centre for Disease Control (CDC) and UNICEF; and
 - (ix) Two COVID Economic Impact on Business surveys (during the pandemic outbreak) as well as a Human migration study during COVID regulations.

All the surveys during the past 5 years were conducted via using the Computer Aided Personnel Interviews (CAPI) as opposed to traditional paper-based questionnaires.

4. Under the leadership of Mr. Shimuafeni the NSA successfully concluded the Census Mapping exercise, in lieu the main Census, where it mapped and verified 955 037 built up structures countrywide and employed over 517 temporary staff for this exercise. This project was conducted for the first time with digital maps, as well as digitally capturing the information.
5. During the tenure of Mr Shimuafeni, the NSA produced its second Strategic Plan internally, as well as its first National Spatial Data Infrastructure Strategic Plan. Both these plans were focussing on the external stakeholders since the initial Strategic Plan was focussing on building the NSA.
6. In the quest for NSA to continue to carry out its mandate of providing data to the nation at all times, the NSA Management under the leadership of Mr. Shimuafeni developed several dissemination tools such as the Statistics Mobile App which is available to download for all types of phones, as well as the Geoportal for accessing location based statistics.
7. It is further noteworthy that the NSA has consistently managed its resources well. This was also documented and confirmed by various Financial Audits carried out by external private audit firms that provided unqualified opinions since the inception of the NSA in 2012.
8. The NSA was also instrumental in forging relationships with both local and international organisations which culminated in signing MoUs and cooperation agreements. Some of the notable MoUs concluded in the last 5 years with international partners for collaborations that ranged from information sharing to joint project executions were:
 - (i) South African National Space Agency (SANSA);
 - (ii) Office of National Statistics of the UK (ONS); and
 - (iii) Southern African Science Service Centre for Climate Change & Adaptive Land Management (SASSCAL).
 - (iv) Mindflow, and international company that uses Mobile phone data to analyse human migrations.

This period also saw one of the Executives, Mr. Alex Mudabeti, appointed as a **Co-Chairperson of the UN Expert Group Committee for the Integration of**

Statistical and Geographic Information together with another Co-Chairperson from the German Statistics Office.

Locally, the NSA cooperated with the Ministry of Health and Social Services during the COVID pandemic outbreak by developing the **COVID Dashboard** as a monitoring tool (amongst others); Ministry of Urban and Rural Development with the **National Housing Information System** being developed (which is one of the resolutions from the 2nd Land Conference), as well as the **Data Capturing and Analyses of the Road Accident forms** for the National Road Safety Council (NRSC); the Publishing of the first ever **Land Statistics Booklet** which served as an input for discussions for the 2nd Land Conference.

9. The Board is also proud to indicate that there has been employee growth within the Agency which is essential since the staff are the most valuable assets in the NSA. Employees who were promoted and those who started out as fixed-term employees who have since been appointed on permanent contracts are as per below table:

Description of employee movement	Number of employees 2013-2021	Number of employees from 01 April 2016
Fixed-term Employees who are now employed on permanent contracts	12	10
Permanent Employees who moved into another position horizontally	8	7
Permanent Employees who were promoted once	35	23
Permanent Employees who were promoted twice	2	1

Funds spent by the NSA to assist employees in their own academic studies (please note that these funds spent do not have to be reimbursed by the employees concerned): The table below shows the number of employees who have applied for financial assistance to fund their academic studies, and the amount granted. The NSA have assisted 51 employees and spent a total amount of over N\$ 700,000.

	Number of employees	Amounts Allocated to Staff Members
2nd Semester 2019	17	200,000.00
1st Semester 2020	13	200,000.00
2nd Semester 2020	8	131,165.00
1st Semester 2021	13	173,170.68

10. As a Board, we are happy that the past 5 years can be characterised as successful years. We have thus no doubt that with Mr. Shimuafeni at the helm, the next 5 years will be successful as well and we wish him all the best in that.

I thank you



DR. JOHN STEYTLER

NSA BOARD CHAIRPERSON

About Us

Namibia Statistics Agency is mandated with collecting, producing, analyzing and disseminating official statistics. Find us at www.nsa.org.na

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