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1. As is customary, it gives the NSA great pleasure in releasing the economic statistics to the nation.
2. Today I am pleased to release statistical information on a Compendium of Environment Statistics, Government Wage Index for Q2:2020; Namibia Producer Price Index for Q2:2020; GDP for Q2:2020.

COMPENDIUM OF ENVIRONMENTAL STATISTICS

3. This is the first compendium of environmental statistics that NSA is releasing. Environmental Statistics are equally important like any other statistics as they support evidence-based decision and policy making.
4. Compilation of environmental statistics remains to be a challenge in the country and this is due to the fact that these types of statistics cover a wide range of information and are interdisciplinary in nature.
5. The compendium of environmental statistics presents existing data sourced from the activities of both government and non-governmental entities that are involved in monitoring, controlling or promoting awareness about issues affecting Namibia's environment.
6. This Compendium is based on the structure of the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics (FDES 2013) developed by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD).

7. The Core Set of Environment Statistics of the FDES 2013 identifies those statistics of high-priority and relevance to most countries and have a sound methodological framework. The statistics selected from the Core Set presented in this compendium contains the most important environment statistics to describe environmental topics, thus providing guidance to environmental programs and policies.
8. In this publication, data is compiled from existing sources of the Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA), and administrative data sources from both government and non-government entities. Data gaps still exist thus it was not possible to collect all the data required for this publication. The NSA acknowledges the support from UNSD and all the experts and stakeholders who were committed to provide the statistical data and information included in this publication.
9. The Compendium is structured in 7 sections following the components of the FDES 2013, with tourism added to the FDES 2013 components to reflect its importance to Namibia:
 - a) Environmental Conditions and Quality;
 - b) Environmental Resources and their use;
 - c) Residuals;
 - d) Extreme events and disasters;
 - e) Human settlement and Environmental Health;
 - f) Environmental protection, Management and Engagement; and
 - g) Tourism;

GOVERNMENT WAGE INDEX Q2:2020

10. The Government Wage Index measuring the level of prices that government employees charge in exchange for their labour services for the second quarter of 2020 increased by 0.9 percent compared to 1.0 percent of the corresponding quarter.
11. The Public administration index increased by 1.2 percent which is owed to the increase in the average wage that went up by 0.02 percent. This increase is reflected in the number employees that declined during the period, thus pulling up the wage per worker.
12. The Education index rose by 1.2 percent due to increased average wage as well. There are new employees in the sector that are employed at higher salary grades.
13. While, the Health index declined by 2.7 percent during the second quarter of 2020 due to the average wage that went down by 1.9 percent. Although the number of employees in the sector increased, those employed were mainly below the average wage that was recorded in the second quarter of 2019.

NAMIBIA PRODUCER PRICE INDEX Q2:2020

14. The Producer Price Index (PPI) is an important macro-economic indicator that measures the average change over time in the prices which domestic producers received for their products which exclude any taxes, transport and trade margins that the purchaser may have to pay.
15. During the second quarter of 2020 the NPPI for the three industries currently produced by the NSA (Manufacture of cement, lime and

plaster, Electric power generation, transmission and distribution and Water collection, treatment and supply) performed as follows.

16. Manufacturing for Cement, lime and plaster: The annual percentage change was stagnant during the second quarter of 2020 compared to a deflation of 10.4 percent recorded during the same quarter of 2019.

17. Electric power generation, transmission and distribution: This category recorded a deflation of 23.9 percent compared to an increase of 2.9 percent obtained during same period a year earlier.

18. Water collection, treatment and supply: During the reporting period, this category annual percentage change remained stagnant during the second quarter of 2020 compared to 6.1 percent registered during the same period of 2019.

FOR THE GDP SECOND QUARTER OF 2020

19. The domestic economy contracted by 11.1 percent during the second quarter of 2020 compared to a decline of 3.6 percent recorded in the corresponding quarter of 2019. During the review period (2013:Q1 to 2020:Q2), this is the highest contraction recorded.

20. The contraction in the economic performance during the second quarter of 2020 is observed across the entire sectors of the economy as domestic activities were under pressure due to the impact of the COVID-19 measures that was put in place for the country to mitigate the spread of the virus. The measures entailed among others, closing of the country's borders and only allowing businesses that provides essential services to operate.

21. Double digit reductions were recorded in some of sectors of the economy. 'Hotels and Restaurants' recorded the highest decline of 64.2 percent compared to a growth of 12.3 percent of the same quarter of 2019. While other services which includes 'art, entertainment, recreation activities, domestic workers, caretakers, tutors, gardeners etc' recorded the second highest decline of 43.7 percent during the review period.
22. Although the Hotels and Restaurants sector recorded the deepest contraction of 64.2 percent, its contribution to the GDP growth rate of 11.1 percent represents only a reduction of 1.3 percentage points whereas the highest percentage point contributor is the manufacturing sector that posted 4.4 percentage points to the overall GDP growth rate followed by Wholesale and retail trade (-2.2 percentage points) and Taxes on products (-2.0 percentage points).
23. 'Manufacturing' and 'Transport and storage' sectors registered declines of more than 30 percent in real value added. While, 'Administrative and support services' declined by 29.2 percent and 'Wholesale and retail trade' also declined by 22.5 percent, respectively.
24. However, of the 16 sectors' under observations, 3 sectors recorded positive performance during the period under review. The improved performance were observed in 'Agriculture and forestry', 'Information and communication' and Health sectors that recorded growth rates of 47.2 percent, 11.0 percent and 6.0 percent, respectively.
25. The positive performance in 'Agriculture and forestry' is due to a bumper harvest by the farmers resulting from good rainfalls experienced during the period under review.

26.The 'Information and communication' sector growth results from increased activities in the usage of data as demand surged up for data and calls as workers switch from working from offices to homes. This was further exacerbated by demand from higher institutions switching from face to face teaching to online learning.

27.Acceleration in the Health sector is owed to the easing of fiscal consolidation policy in the health sector as a response to the pandemic that saw increased activities resulting in the employment of more health workers to assist in containing the disease.

CONCLUSION

28.I would also like to emphasize the importance of accurate and timely delivery of data from our stakeholders in private and public sectors to the Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA), on which compilation of statistics depends.

29.Finally, I wish to express my appreciation to all the data providers; both institutions and individuals, without whose assistance the publication would not have been possible. Further I would like to request all our esteemed stakeholders to continue supporting and providing NSA with the required data so that collectively we can make the production of accurate, reliable and timely statistics a resounding success.

I thank you



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