



13 December 2012, Windhoek

PRESS STATEMENT

The domestic economy declined by 1.3 percent in the third quarter of 2012

Background

1. The National Accounts for Namibia are compiled in accordance to international standards that are set by the United Nations System of National Accounts 1993 (SNA 1993). Today's release is on the third quarter GDP 2012. The third quarter depicts the most recent direction of the economic performance.

Economic development

2. The seasonally adjusted GDP shows that the economy turned around by recording a decline of 5.4 percent following an increase of 2.2 percent recorded in the preceding quarter.
3. Year-on-year, the unadjusted GDP has recorded a decline of 1.3 percent in the third quarter of 2012 compared to a growth of 4.5 percent registered in the same quarter of 2011.
4. The negative performance in the economy can generally be attributed to agriculture, fishing and manufacturing sectors that recorded declines in real value added of 4.3 percent, 18.9 percent and 6.1 percent, respectively.
5. Other sectors that registered declines are the wholesale and retail trade; and hotels and restaurants recording gloomy declines of 15.9 percent and 13.4 percent, respectively.
6. Despite the economy being depressed in the third quarter of 2012, there were other sectors that performed relatively well, such as the mining and quarrying that recorded a moderate growth of 13.9 percent in real value added. The growth in the mining is mainly due to increased production in diamond and metal ores subsectors.

Conclusion

7. The domestic economy is on a downward trend.
8. Secondary and tertiary industries recorded declines in the period under review.
9. Mining and quarrying registered a reasonable growth during the third quarter of 2012.

Board of Directors

Mr Paul Hartmann (Chairperson), Ms Florentia Amuenje, Ms Florette Nakusera,
Mr Sikongo Haihambo, Ms Anna Matebele, Mr Martin Mwinga, Dr John Steytler