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Attention: The News Editor

MEDIA RELEASE

The National Commission on Research, Science and Technology (NCRST) and Technology Innovation Agency (TIA) of South Africa sign Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

The National Commission on Research, Science and Technology (NCRST), and the South African Technology Innovation Agency (TIA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 30 September 2015 that aims at establishing a strategic partnership to enable the support of research output into commercialisable products and services.

This agency to agency MOU is based on the already exiting Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the Government of the Republic of Namibia and the Government of the Republic of South Africa, under which the two nations intent to strengthen and further develop the friendly relation in the fields of science, technology and innovation within the development of national economies & systems of innovation as well as in the improvement of their socio-economic standards of life of their citizens..

TIA is a public entity established in terms of the Technology Innovation Agency Act, 2008 to support the State in stimulating and intensifying technological innovation in order to improve economic growth and the quality of life of all South Africans by developing and exploiting technological innovations. The NCRST on the other is State Owned Enterprise established in terms section 4 of the Research, Science and Technology Act, Act 23 of 2004 to provide for the coordination, development and promotion of research, science technology & innovation in Namibia as well as providing funding to research, science technology and innovation.

The MOU was signed by Dr. Eino Mvula, Chief Executive Officer of the NCRST and Mr Barlow Manilul, the Chief Execute Officer of TIA.

“We are excited about this MOU, as it will enable the attainment one of the 5 Key Strategic Priorities in National Programme for Research, Science Technology and Innovation, focusing on Innovation for the social and economic sector. Our emphasis here is placed on support services and resources for nurturing start-up science and technology enterprises with the goal of developing them into financially viable businesses equipped with the tools for long-term survival and growth.” said Dr. Eino Mvula, Chief Executive Officer of the NCRST during the Signing Ceremony.

The scope of the MOU covers the following aspects:

- Joint review of research projects for potential technology development support;
- Facilitate Joint Workshops/Seminars on commercialization and Intellectual Property (IP) management;
- Experience sharing on the establishment technology station, start-ups and incubation services; and,
- Training on Technology Management for government institutions/programmes /audience.

Ends:

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