



Welcoming Remarks

By

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At the opening of the **Training of Trainers Workshop on Research,
Science, Technology & Innovation Data Collection and Indicators**

2 December 2014

NIPAM Headquarters, Windhoek, Namibia

Mr Seke Lukovi, NEPAD-ASTII facilitator;
Participants in this training workshop;
Distinguished Guests;
Ladies and Gentlemen;

A very good morning and on behalf of our CEO, Dr Eino Mvula who couldn't be here today due to other prior commitments, let me take this opportunity to thank NEPAD Agency for availing Mr. Seke Lukovi to facilitate this important training of trainers workshop on Research, **Science, Technology & Innovation Data Collection and Indicators**. It is a singular honour and pleasure to welcome you at the opening of this Training of Trainers Workshop.

Ladies and Gentlemen, you may have noticed that this is the second time that NCRST and NEPAD - ASTII Programme have held a training workshop in Namibia. The first National Training Workshop on the same subject was held here in August this year and once again we would like to thank all the four facilitators (Prof Luke Mumba; Dr. Neo Molotja; Dr. Moses Sithole and Mr. Seke Lukovi) who made the first Training Workshop a success. We are very thankful to NEPAD Agency for always being a supportive partner, particularly the ASTII Programme for assisting the member states to contribute to improving the quality of STI policies at national, regional and continental levels as well as by strengthening Africa's capacity to develop and use STI indicators.

The main objective of this Training of Trainers Workshop is to impart skills among participants on conducting R&D and Innovation surveys. It is expected at the end of this workshop that participants would have gained expertise and confidence in the production of core Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Indicators, which

would be important in the process leading to the publication of the national reports on STI statistics/indicators on a regular basis.

The participants come from both the NCRST & Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA) and this is part of the collaboration between the two institutions. This collaboration was formalized in August this year (of which Mr Lukovi was one of the witnesses) and would facilitate the establishment of a national RSTI information management system, which will serve as a source and repository of information that is relevant to science, technology and innovation related matters. It would also foster the application of the data to understand the state of the National Innovation System in order to support the development of evidence-based policy as well as constructive feedback to all stakeholders in research, science, technology and innovation.

This Training of Trainers Workshop will be held from 2-4 December 2014. It is not pretty long compared to other training courses, but it is very important that we all are very familiar with the specific content of the training module, learn as much as possible, ask questions and provide inputs. In the future, we will try our utmost best to provide more time to this kind of trainings.

Ladies and Gentlemen, our sincere thanks goes to Dr Eino Mvula, the CEO and to all staff for their continuous support and hard work because without their assistance this training may not have been possible.

And finally I would like to thank our facilitator Mr Seke Lukovi for being willing to share his experiences, knowledge and skills with us.

With these few words, I wish you good luck and a successful workshop. I thank you.