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Attention: The News Editor

MEDIA RELEASE

The National Commission on Research, Science and Technology (NCRST) forms Strategic Partnership with Namibia Scientific Society (NSS)

The National Commission on Research, Science and Technology (NCRST) and Namibia Scientific Society (NSS) have formalized their partnership by signing a Memorandum of Understanding on 06 April 2017, at Namibia Scientific Society.

The intention of the MoU is to strengthen and further develop the friendly relation between the two organisations in the fields of research, science, technology, and innovation; as well as to recognise the importance of science and technology in the development of the national economy & systems of innovation as well as in the contribution to societal advancement.

“We are excited about this partnership between NSS and NCRST as we believe it would further stimulate the growth and development of research and application on issues relevant to national development. A Joint Technical Committee would be constituted in terms of this MOU to ensure its effective implementation. The committee has clear terms of references which includes the identification of

projects for collaboration, drawing up of implementation plans, and monitoring of the implementation of such plans.” Said Dr. Eino Mvula

“As Namibia Scientific Society is a typically Namibian not-for-gain organisation and a non-government institution committed to offering research facilities and knowledge to local and international scientists and all sectors of society, such cooperation is in national interest and to the benefit of all stakeholders. As a member association founded 92 years ago (in 1925!), the Namibia Scientific Society has built a long-term reputation of being an unbiased independent platform and is now considered a credible and reliable custodian of national heritage and the most prominent civil society representative. Members of the Society belong to all sectors of society with a large number of scientists (local and foreign), researchers and students. Amongst work groups of the Namibia Scientific Society are the Astronomy Work Group, the Bird Club, Hydrogeology Association, Herpetology work group etc. The Society is a founding member of the Museums Association of Namibia and a member of several scientific institutions. We support various small museums by means of a patronage and have recently been involved in the upgrading of the Livingstone Linyanti Museum.

Namibia Scientific Society is also an enthusiastic and committed member of the Namibia Chamber of Environment, and cherishes sound relationships with various foundations, e.g. Hans Seidel, Konrad Adenauer, FNB Foundations. The NSS closely works with FNCC, the Goethe Institute and several embassies. The Namibia Environment and Wildlife Society is our partner organization and a Memorandum of Understanding has long been signed between the two institutions.

Because Namibia Scientific Society hosts the largest collection of books related to our beloved country and various data and items which are most relevant to Namibia we believe that we can make a special contribution to the expansion and distribution of knowledge in this country. Together with the National Commission of Research, Science and Technology we can play an even more prominent role. We offer expertise and connections beyond our borders and are ready to assist and cooperate wherever

possible. This Memorandum of Understanding is a great example of cooperation between our private sector and the Namibian government. WE trust that more such agreements will be signed within short time.” Said Waltraut Fritzsche, CEO of Namibia Scientific Society.

The Parties, agree to co-operate with each other regarding the areas and matters set out below as follows:

- Promoting research, science, technology and innovation in Namibia;
- Establishing and maintaining of the Namibian Journal for Research, Science, Technology and Innovation;
- Co-hosting STI engagements and information dissemination platforms such as workshops, seminars, public lectures, national and international conferences;
- Promoting international collaboration and networking in research, science, technology and innovation;
- Documenting, preserving, sharing and distributing scientific information; and
- Facilitating Technology Transfer (TT) in various areas of co-operation as indicated herein.

The MoU was signed by Dr. Eino Mvula, Chief Executive Officer of NCRST and Ms. Waltraut Fritzsche, Chief Executive Officer of Namibia Scientific Society.

Ends:

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