

15 August 2014

**Attention: The News Editor**

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

*NCRST hosts a National Training Workshop on STI data collection and Indicators*

The National Commission on Research, Science and Technology (NCRST) and NEPAD/African Union Science & Technology Indicators Initiative (ASTII) yesterday hosted a three-day training workshop on Science, Technology and Innovation Data Collection and Indicators.

Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) are collectively seen as an engine of economic growth and development on the continent. To promote linkages between Namibia and the African Union or other international bodies on the development of research, science and technology, NCRST through its mandate needs to ensure the co-ordination, monitoring and supervision of all research, science and technology activities carried out in Namibia in collaboration with the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA).

The theme of the workshop was **Namibia's Vision 2030 "R&D and Innovation indicators towards the measurement of 2% Namibian GERD by 2018"**, with the aim of imparting skills for conducting Research, Development and Innovation surveys among government officials dealing with scientific research and innovation programmatic activities and experts who are actively involved in STI matters and national surveys (National Statistical Agency and other National Statistical Organisations) in Namibia. The workshop provided 60 participants with training on the production of core Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Indicators, as part of the process leading to the publication of the National reports on STI statistics/indicators on a regular basis.

This collaboration with NEPAD was thus materialized through the measurement of both Innovation and Research and Experimental Development (R&D) activities with national surveys to be carried out on a regular basis to collect and analyse data for the production of

### COMMISSIONERS

Prof A. Du Pisani (Chairperson)  
Dr J. Shoopala  
Ms J. //Haubas  
Mr F. /Uirab  
Mr J. Aipanda

Ms S. Busch  
Ms G. D' Almeida  
Dr V. Do Cabo  
Ms E. Hamunyela  
Mr A. Ilukena

Ms A. Kapia  
Ms P. Nakale  
Mr U. Nakamhela  
Ms M. Namudjebo-Tilahun  
Ms H. Nangombe

Mr M. Von Jeney  
Dr E. Mvula (Ex Officio)  
Ms E. Keramen (Secretariat)

STI core indicators. The use of internationally approved standards and guidelines (OECD Frascati & OECD/Eurostat Oslo Manuals) to collect R&D and Innovation statistics/indicators in Namibia is done towards the implementation of the African Union Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators (ASTII) Initiative. The initiative thus aimed at producing internationally comparable Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) indicators for planning, benchmarking and evidence-based policy making processes.

“The overall goal of African Science, Technology and Innovation Indicator Initiative (ASTII) is to contribute to improving the quality of STI policies at national, regional and continental levels, by strengthening Africa’s capacity to develop and use STI indicators. The National Commission on Research, Science and Technology (NCRST) as an agency mandated with the co-ordination, monitoring and supervision of all research, science and technology activities in Namibia, views this initiative as significant for Namibia, as we embark on the process of strengthening our National System of Innovation through the development and implementation of policies and programmes that address our developmental challenges”, said Dr Eino Mvula, Chief Executive Officer of the NCRST.

**Ends:**

**Issued by:** National Commission on Research, Science and Technology  
Office of the Chief Executive Officer

**Contact Person:** Elzita Beukes  
Head: Corporate Communication and Marketing  
Tel: 061 - 431 7050  
Email: [ebeukes@ncrst.na](mailto:ebeukes@ncrst.na)