

MEDIA STATEMENT



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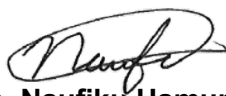
BANK OF NAMIBIA AND THE PAYMENTS ASSOCIATION OF NAMIBIA LAUNCH THE NATIONAL PAYMENT SYSTEM VISION 2030

1. The Bank of Namibia, in collaboration with the Payments Association of Namibia and the broader payments industry, has officially launched the National Payment System (NPS) Vision and Strategy 2026–2030 under the theme *“Inclusive Payments, Shared Prosperity: Charting the Next Era.”* This milestone marks a defining moment in Namibia’s digital and economic transformation, positioning the National Payment System not only as critical financial infrastructure but as a catalyst for inclusive growth, innovation, and shared prosperity.
2. Building on the strong foundation established under the NPS Vision 2025, Namibia has made notable progress in modernising its payments ecosystem. Key achievements include regulatory reforms, the expansion of digital payment services, enhanced interoperability across payment channels, and the adoption of international standards such as ISO 20022, alongside the introduction of Open Banking and NAMQR Code standards. These advancements have contributed to significant growth in both transaction volumes and values across electronic funds transfers, card payments, and e-money platforms.
3. The development of the NPS Vision 2030 has been deliberate, inclusive, and evidence-based, incorporating extensive stakeholder consultations, industry workshops, and consumer research, including national surveys on payment behaviour. This process ensured alignment with Namibia’s broader developmental priorities while positioning the payments ecosystem to respond to emerging technological, economic, and societal shifts.
4. Presenting the strategic direction, Ms Irene Venter, Acting Director of the National Payment System and Financial Surveillance Department, highlighted that the Vision is anchored on five core pillars: user-centricity, trust and resilience, digital enablement, strategic foresight and

innovation, and knowledge communities. These pillars collectively aim to embed human-centred design into payment systems, strengthen cybersecurity and fraud prevention, enable interoperable and instant digital payments, ensure policy readiness for emerging technologies, and build a collaborative and skilled payments ecosystem capable of sustaining long-term growth.

5. Delivering the keynote address, the Honourable Ericah Shafudah, Minister of Finance, underscored that an efficient and inclusive payment system is the bloodstream of any modern economy, noting that, “Government, working closely with the Bank of Namibia and industry stakeholders, is advancing a secure and interoperable digital public infrastructure (DPI) to enable inclusive access to services. This includes instant payment capabilities, digital identification, and safe data exchange platforms, with pilot programmes already underway to transition selected Government-to-person payments, including social transfers, onto Instant Payments Namibia, enhancing efficiency, transparency, and dignity in public service delivery, while strengthening the resilience and global competitiveness of Namibia’s financial system.”
6. The Minister further highlighted the Government’s commitment to strengthening Namibia’s digital public infrastructure, noting that pilot programmes are already underway to transition selected Government-to-person payments, including social transfers, onto modern instant payment platforms. This shift is expected to enhance efficiency, transparency, and dignity in the delivery of public services, while reinforcing Namibia’s position as an active participant in the global digital economy.
7. Importantly, the Minister emphasised that while the launch of the Vision represents a critical milestone, its success will ultimately depend on disciplined implementation, coordinated stakeholder action, and sustained accountability. She called on all stakeholders, including regulators, financial institutions, fintechs, and the private sector, to collaborate in delivering a payment ecosystem that is not only efficient and innovative but also secure, inclusive, and trusted.
8. The NPS Vision 2030 is available on the Bank’s website on [NPS Vision 2030.pdf](#).

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