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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LAUNCH OF THE N\$30 COMMEMORATIVE BANKNOTE TO MARK 30TH INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATION

1. On Namibia's 30th independence anniversary, H.E. President Hage Geingob launched the N\$30 commemorative banknote, issued in terms of the Bank of Namibia Act 1997 (Act No.15 of 1997) as amended. The once off print commemorative banknote is the first of its kind to be issued by the Bank of Namibia, issued to celebrate Namibia's 30th Independence Anniversary.
2. The issuance of commemorative banknotes is a common practice among central banks all over the world, to mark national events deemed significant to a country or to a central bank.
3. Since independence, the Bank of Namibia had issued commemorative coins, but this marks the first time, the Bank issues a commemorative banknote.

Characteristics of the N\$30 commemorative banknote

4. The Bank determined the denomination, composition, form, design and characteristics of the commemorative banknote, in accordance with the Bank of Namibia Act 1997 (Act No.15 of 1997) as amended.
5. The note is printed on a smooth, secure and durable material known as polymer that bears state of the art security features. Polymer notes are cleaner, safer, stronger and provides enhanced counterfeit resilience features.
6. In keeping with the established tradition of maintaining a unique currency that symbolizes independence, national pride and national heritage, the front of the bank



note captures the theme of the banknotes which is '*3 decades of independence, Smooth transition of power between the 3 Presidents, Peace, Stability and Progress*'.

7. The image of Namibia's heads of state since independence, namely, the Founding President, H.E. Dr Sam Nujoma; Former President H.E. Dr Hifikepunye Pohamba; and current President H.E. Dr Hage G. Geingob, are printed in raised ink.
8. Other **notable features** include:
 - Transparent dynamic-effect between the diamond-shaped window and the value 30 with gold ink.
 - Six clusters of raised dots in the top right corner which helps visually impaired and partially sighted people to identify the value of the note, similar with the current banknotes.
 - At the back of the note there is a see-through window depicting the Black Namibian Rhino.

Rationale of the Features/Characteristics

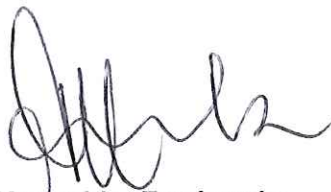
9. For the past three decades, Namibia has achieved great strides in terms of political and economic stability. Although the country has experienced developmental challenges similar to other developing countries, the achievements to date such a vibrant and functioning democracy, the maintenance of peace and stability, socio-economic development are worth celebrating.
10. The portraits of the Founding President, Former President and the current President, symbolise unity, smooth transition of power and the legacy of the three Presidents over the last three decades of an independent Namibia.
11. Further, the banknote depicts the Black Namibian Rhino which is facing extinction as one of the world's most endangered species. This is in support of the country's campaign to end rhino-poaching and demonstrates Namibia's commitment to natural resource management.

Issuance



12. A public education campaign is underway and thereafter the public shall be informed when the banknotes are available to the market.
13. The commemorative banknotes will be available at any commercial bank's branch countrywide or at the Bank of Namibia Head-office or its branch at Oshakati.
14. The N\$30 commemorative banknote together with the current family of banknotes will be used at the same time, and all banknotes are to be accepted as legal tender in the payment of goods and services. These include the first Namibian banknotes issued in 1993 and the current circulating new family of banknotes issued in 2012.
15. Over the years, the Bank has issued banknotes, and will continue to execute this task of national currency production in a manner in which costs are fully absorbed by revenue.
16. Lastly, the Bank congratulates the Namibian nation for the 30 years of peace and stability.

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