

23 March 2011

Attention: News Editor

REF: 9/6/2

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**BANK OF NAMIBIA AVAILS N\$1 MILLION FOR COMPUTER LABORATORY  
SUPPORT PROJECT AT TWO NAMIBIAN SCHOOLS**

---

On Wednesday, 23 March 2011, the Governor of the Bank of Namibia, Mr Ipumbu Shiimi, signed a five years agreement with two Namibian schools, namely P K De Villiers Secondary School from Karas region and Hans Daniel Namuhuya Senior Secondary School from Oshikoto region, in support of Government's priorities to promote computer literacy in Namibian schools.

The project, which is in its second phase, entails an allocation of N\$500 000.00 per school to sponsor the establishment and maintenance of a fully-fledge computer laboratory at the premises of each beneficiary school. This entails provision and installation of the following, per school:

- 35x Mecer Classmate Netbooks
- 1 x Bay Chart
- 1x Smart Board
- 1x HP Laser Jet Network Printer
- 1x Air Conditioner
- Painting of the computer laboratory
- Maintenance service and training of teachers

The first phase of this project commenced in 2005 and was concluded in May 2010, benefiting two Namibian schools namely Wennie Du Plessis and Nuuyoma senior secondary schools in Omaheke and Omusati regions respectfully. The project is part of the corporate social investment (CSI) strategy of the central bank, focusing on the improvement of education and information technology in Namibia.

Signing the agreement, Governor Shiimi said, *“by signing this agreement, the Bank of Namibia is, once again, responding to the Minister of Education’s clarion call for stakeholders to get involved in addressing the current and future plight of the Namibian child, through education”*. He stated further that the Bank of Namibia engaged with the Ministry of Education as the primary stakeholder, to endorse the second phase of the Bank’s computer project for the next five years (2011 – 2016). The Bank’s computer project support Namibia’s Information and Communication Technology in Education Initiative, Tech/Na!, which is part of a sector wide approach and a key component of Namibia’s overall education plan, the Education and Training Centre Improvement Programme (ETSIP).

After the Ministry of Education readily endorsed the project in September 2010, the Bank worked in partnership with the Ministry in identifying potential schools that comply not only with stipulated criteria of the Bank for this project but more importantly, with the current Ministry’s national computer deployment priority programme. According to the Bank’s Head of Corporate Communications, Ndangi Katoma, *“the Bank of Namibia found the Ministry’s comprehensive strategy for the integration of ICTs across the entire education sector as critical and we share and support Tech/Na!’s main goals to equip, educate and empower learners, teachers and communities in bridging the digital divide and meeting the goals of Vision 2030. The Bank is therefore pleased to make a meaningful contribution through this corporate social investment”*.

In implementing the project, four potential secondary schools were identified from the list of the Ministry’s priority schools in need of computer equipment and training. The schools were invited to submit full motivation against provided guidelines. Upon receipt of the written motivations, assessment visits were conducted at all four schools. The two schools were then finally selected as meeting the qualifying criteria.

The Bank of Namibia was therefore pleased to enter into memorandum of agreements between Hans Daniel Namuhuya Senior Secondary School and P K De Villiers Secondary School in implementing this project. Official inauguration of the computer laboratories will take place in due course at the respective schools.

**Issued by: Mr. Ndangi Katoma**

**Head: Corporate Communications**

**Enquiries: Ms. Mauriza Fredericks, tel: (061) 2835114, Fax: 2835932 or**

**Email: [Mauriza.Fredericks@bon.com.na](mailto:Mauriza.Fredericks@bon.com.na), [www.bon.com.na](http://www.bon.com.na)**