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**PRESS RELEASE**

**BANK OF NAMIBIA ANNOUNCES NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION**

**GRAND FINALE WINNERS**

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On Friday, 17 July 2009 the winner of this years' Bank of Namibia High School Competition was announced at a prestigious gala event. The winner of the 2009 competition is: Haimbili Haufiku Secondary School from the Ohangwena Region. The runner-up is Wennie Du Plessis Secondary School of the Omaheke Region, in the third place is St Boniface College of the Kavango Region and in the fourth place is Gabriel Taapopi of the Oshana Region. The final four teams battled it out in front of live audience. The event was also broadcasted live on NBC National Radio.

The winning school received a total of N\$ 50 000-00, while the runner up walked away with N\$30 000-00. The school in the third place was rewarded with N\$10 000-00 and the school in the fourth place received a printer for their school.

As from 2 to 18 June 2009, secondary school learners from grades 8 to 12, all over the country were invited to partake in the competition. Each participating school received resource material which consisted of an extract from the Bank of Namibia 2008 Annual Report, focusing on the "Operations and Affairs of the Bank" and the Monetary policy formulation and stance" to study. Learners were required to study an additional six chapters from their prescribed secondary textbook, "Starting Economics" by G F Stanlake, in an effort to support the Ministry of Education in their educational goals and objectives. The learners formed a four-learner team that represented their particular schools under the training and guidance of volunteer teachers. In the regional round of the competition learners had to write a written examination to test their understanding of economics.

Thirteen regional winning teams emerged in the regional round.. The regional winners traveled to Windhoek to participate in the semi-final and final rounds of the competition.

“The Bank of Namibia is quite impressed with the knowledge demonstrated by the learners about economics. We are confident that we have successfully achieved the goal of this competition, which is to equip learners with a thorough understanding of the role of the Bank of Namibia in the economy, as well as related topics,” said Helene Meintjes, Head: Corporate Communication.

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