

Date: 24 April 2019
Attention: News Editor
Ref: 9/6/5

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DISCONTINUATION OF THE MINTING OF THE N\$0.05 CENT COIN DENOMINATION

1. The Bank of Namibia, as the sole institution mandated by the Bank of Namibia Act, (Act No. 15 of 1997) to issue notes and coins in Namibia, hereby informs the public that the minting of the N\$0.05 cent coin has been discontinued as from 01 January 2019. However, the N\$0.05 coin will remain legal tender in Namibia and accepted as a medium of payment at local retailers and businesses indefinitely.
2. The decision to discontinue the minting of the N\$0.05 cent coin was informed by the low recycling of the coins due to increased accumulation by members of the public in their households. This has resulted in unnecessary pressure being exerted on the N\$0.05 cent coin denomination, given the current high withdrawal rate noted by the Bank over the past few years.
3. Additionally, the Bank has noted that the handling costs for the N\$0.05 cent coin have become exorbitant for commercial banks and retailers. Moreover, the N\$ 0,05 cent coin has a low purchasing power, compared to other denominations in terms of the amount of goods or services that a N\$0,05 cent coin can buy.
4. In the event the N\$0.05 cent coins are not readily available; retailers and businesses are urged to apply the rounding principles of adjusting the final cash payment to the nearest ten cents in favour of the customer.

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5. In the meantime, the Bank shall continue supplying commercial banks with the N\$0.05 cents coins with the current stock that is expected to last until the end of August 2019. Thereafter, the availability thereof, will be dependent on the re-circulation of the N\$0.05 cent coins by members of the public through local commercial banks, retailers and businesses.
6. Lastly, the public is advised to approach the Bank of Namibia should they have any queries related to the discontinuation of the minting of the N\$0.05 cent coin. The Bank is reachable at the following addresses: email: info@bon.com.na Tel: 061 283 5114, physical address: 71 Robert Mugabe Avenue, Windhoek and or at the Bank's Oshakati Branch, 909 Sam Nujoma Road, Oshakati East.

Issued by:



Mr. Kazembire Zemburuka

Deputy Director: Corporate Communications

Department of Strategic Communications and Financial Sector Development,

Bank of Namibia, Tel: (061) 283 5114, Fax: (061) 283 5546 or email:

info@bon.com.na