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Attention: The News Editor
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CAUTION AGAINST THE USE AND ACCEPTANCE OF DYE-STAINED ZAR BANKNOTES

1. The Bank of Namibia hereby warns the public and other interested parties of the possibility that stained South African banknotes may have ended-up in Namibia after the substantial looting of businesses in that country. An obvious potential exists, given that Namibia uses the South African Rand as legal tender, for looted South African banknotes to make their way into the country. Therefore, the Bank is hereby cautioning members of the public and the business communities to be on the lookout for dye-stained South African banknotes and refrain from accepting such money as they are unusable in their current state.
2. ATM currency protection devices (CPDs) were activated by looters in South Africa during the civil turmoil, resulting in dye-staining of the money. CPDs are put in ATMs and cash carrier devices to stain banknotes blue, green and red in the event of an attack.
3. Furthermore, the Bank of Namibia introduced the Dye-stained Banknote Policy in 2020, which governs how such protection devices can be used locally as a means of currency protection against, theft, robbery and other related crimes in Namibia. It is against the same Policy to use or accept dyed banknotes for payments.
4. Given the extent of the turmoil and the damage to ATMs and other infrastructure in South Africa, it is reasonable to assume that dye-stained banknotes may be used locally.
5. Members of the public are encouraged to report suspected dye-stained South African banknotes to the nearest Namibian Police station or to the Bank of Namibia for verification.


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Images of dyed Rands are shown below for reference.

How do you identify dye-stained banknotes?



SOUTH AFRICAN RESERVE BANK

ATM bombings and cash-in-transit heists may cause **Currency Protection Devices (CPD)** to activate, this sprays **blue** or **green** dye onto the banknotes. These banknotes are termed **dye-stained**, which are deemed to be **proceeds of crime and thus have no value.**

These dye-stained notes can have **full coverage** of ink stains;



be partially covered with traces **on the edges**;



or with **traces on any other part** of the banknote.



If you are given or unknowingly accept dye-stained banknotes, you must **report the incident and take the banknotes to the nearest police station.**

