

MEDIA STATEMENT



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BANK OF NAMIBIA HIGHLIGHTS NAMIBIA'S ECONOMIC RESILIENCE AND INVESTOR READINESS AT THE 2026 CIRRUS INVESTOR CONFERENCE

1. This week, the Bank of Namibia participated in the 2026 Cirrus Investor Conference, reinforcing its commitment to advancing Namibia's investment narrative and strengthening engagement with both global and domestic capital markets.
2. Convened annually by Cirrus Capital, the Conference has established itself as a key platform within Namibia's financial ecosystem, bringing together institutional investors, policymakers and market participants to discuss economic trends, unlock investment opportunities, and deepen capital market participation. The Bank's participation reaffirms its commitment to transparent engagement and to strengthening investor confidence.
3. Delivering a keynote address under the theme "*Confidence, Reform and Opportunity: Unlocking Namibia's Investment Potential*," the Deputy Governor of the Bank of Namibia, Ms Leonie Dunn, framed Namibia's economic outlook within a rapidly shifting global environment, noting that the global economy is not simply evolving, but being redefined. 'In such an environment, the role of institutions, particularly central banks, is not only to preserve stability, but to anticipate change, to build resilience, and to enable growth' she noted.
4. Domestically, Namibia's economic recovery is expected to strengthen over the medium term, supported by improved activity in construction, utilities, and public sector investment. However, the Deputy Governor cautioned that structural constraints remain, highlighting the need for economic transformation, as long-term growth will depend on diversification, value addition, and the development of new sectors. At a regional level, the Deputy Governor further noted that the outbreak of Foot-and-Mouth Disease in neighbouring

countries presents a downside risk to agricultural output and export performance, reinforcing the need for continued vigilance in safeguarding key sectors of the economy.

5. While global economic activity remains broadly resilient, it continues to unfold within an increasingly complex environment characterised by tighter financial conditions and persistent geopolitical uncertainty. The Deputy Governor noted that Global oil price volatility, driven by geopolitical developments, combined with domestic fuel price increases effective April 2026, is expected to exert upward pressure on inflation. “These dynamics present a material risk to the current forecast and may necessitate major revisions to the current forecasts” she further added.
6. Within this context, the Bank is advancing a deliberate strategic repositioning. As articulated by the Deputy Governor, the institution is guided by a clear vision of “*marching with a clear purpose, while aligning the central bank for the new economy,*” reflecting a shift towards strengthening institutional capacity, leveraging data and technology, and enhancing policy responsiveness.
7. This strategic direction is being translated into a set of transformative reforms aimed at modernising Namibia’s financial architecture. Central to these is the development of the Instant Payments Solution, which will enable real-time, secure, and affordable digital transactions across the economy. The platform is expected to deepen financial inclusion and improve the efficiency of economic activity, supporting broader participation in the financial system.
8. In parallel, the Bank is advancing its Gold Acquisition Programme as part of a broader effort to strengthen reserve adequacy and resilience. The initiative reflects a growing global trend among central banks to diversify reserve assets in response to heightened uncertainty and systemic risk. Further progress is being realised through the rollout of the Central Securities Depository (CSD), which is expected to enhance market efficiency, improve transparency, and deepen liquidity within Namibia’s capital markets. These reforms collectively signal a financial system that is evolving to meet the demands of a modern, investment-driven economy.
9. Reinforcing these structural reforms are strong macro-financial outcomes. Namibia’s successful redemption of the USD 750 million Eurobond in 2025 marked a significant milestone in the country’s fiscal management, while the continued growth and strong

performance of the Welwitschia Sovereign Wealth Fund reflect disciplined investment management and long-term value creation. "Since its inception, the fund has grown from USD 17.94 million to USD 30.09 million (NAD 478.72 million) by the end of February 2026, achieving this growth mostly through investment returns."

10. Reflecting on Namibia's trajectory, the Deputy Governor underscored the importance of forward-looking policy and preparedness, stating that *"We are not insulated from global uncertainty, but we are not constrained by it either. As we look ahead, the Bank of Namibia is dedicated to building a financial system that is resilient, inclusive, and future-ready."*
11. The Bank of Namibia's participation in the annual Cirrus Investor Conference demonstrates its commitment to sustained engagement that promotes investor confidence, deepens market transparency, and supports the continued development of Namibia's capital markets.

For more information:



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