

# MEDIA STATEMENT



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **GOVERNOR EBSON UANGUTA CONCLUDES REGIONAL ENGAGEMENTS TO ADVANCE TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND INSTITUTIONAL LEARNING**

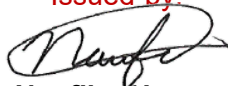
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1. The Governor of the Bank of Namibia, Mr. Ebson Uanguta, last week concluded a series of strategic regional engagements with peer African central banks through a working visit to the Central Bank of Kenya in Nairobi, following engagements with the National Bank of Rwanda and the Bank of Uganda earlier last week. The regional visits formed part of the Bank of Namibia's broader efforts to deepen technical cooperation, strengthen institutional learning, and enhance collaboration with peer central banks as Namibia positions itself for the evolving realities of the new economy.
2. Accompanied by a technical delegation, the Governor undertook a strategic working visit to the National Bank of Rwanda in Kigali, where they were received by Governor Soraya Hakuziyaremye and Deputy Governor Nick Barigye. The visit marked a historic milestone as the two central banks formalised their cooperation through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Bank of Namibia and the National Bank of Rwanda, focused on strengthening collaboration in economic research, financial inclusion, digital transformation, sustainable finance, innovation, and capacity development.
3. The engagement further included discussions on payment modernisation and digital financial infrastructure through engagements with Rwanda's national e-payment switch. Governor Uanguta and his delegation also visited the Kigali Genocide Memorial alongside Governor Hakuziyaremye, where they reflected on the importance of remembrance, resilience, reconciliation, and nation-building.
4. Following the Rwanda engagement, the delegation proceeded to Uganda for a strategic benchmarking engagement with the Bank of Uganda, where they were received by Governor Michael Atingi-Ego and Deputy Governor Prof. Augustus Nuwagaba. The discussions focused

on Uganda's preparations for commercial oil production expected by the end of 2026, and the associated macroeconomic, monetary policy, financial stability, reserve management, and governance considerations. The delegation further engaged with representatives from the Petroleum Authority of Uganda to gain additional insight into Uganda's oil and gas governance architecture and broader sector developments.

5. Governor Ebson Uanguta and the delegation concluded the regional engagements with a visit to the Central Bank of Kenya in Nairobi, where they were received by Governor Kamau Thugge. The engagement built on discussions initiated during the 2025 Alliance for Financial Inclusion (AFI) Global Policy Forum hosted by the Bank of Namibia, as well as a benchmarking visit undertaken by the Central Bank of Kenya to the Bank of Namibia in late 2025, and culminated in the signing of an MoU between the two institutions aimed at strengthening cooperation in areas including banking supervision, digital transformation, financial stability, research, innovation, and capacity development.
6. Speaking during the engagement, Governor Thugge welcomed closer cooperation between the two institutions and highlighted several areas of mutual learning, including fast payment systems, monetary operations, virtual asset regulation, reserve diversification strategies involving gold accumulation, retail bonds, capital market infrastructure, and joint research initiatives.
7. Collectively, the regional engagements reinforced the Bank of Namibia's commitment to strengthening Pan-African central banking cooperation, accelerating institutional learning, and building the technical capacity required to navigate an increasingly complex and rapidly evolving global economic environment.
8. Said Governor Uanguta: "Central banks today are operating in an environment shaped by rapid technological change, shifting geopolitical dynamics, climate-related risks and evolving financial systems. In this context, institutions cannot afford to operate in isolation. These engagements provided an important opportunity to exchange practical experiences, deepen technical collaboration and strengthen institutional networks that will support more responsive, resilient and forward-looking policymaking across the continent."

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