

MEDIA STATEMENT



Bank of Namibia

Date: 29 September 2025

Attention: News Editor

Ref: 9/6/2

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OFFICIAL ISSUANCE OF THE UPGRADED NAMIBIAN BANKNOTES AND NEW COINAGE SERIES IN MARIENTAL

1. The Bank of Namibia today officially issued the upgraded Namibia Dollar banknotes and the new coinage series into circulation at a ceremony held in Mariental, Hardap Region. This historic event follows the successful launch of the currency series by Her Excellency, President Dr. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, on 23 July 2025, which formed part of the Bank's 35th anniversary celebrations under the theme *"Our Currency, Our Heritage, Our Pride – Meet the Next Generation of the Namibia Dollar."*
2. The choice of Mariental for the official issuance was deliberate, reflecting the Bank's commitment to inclusivity and to ensuring that national milestones are celebrated beyond the capital city. In doing so, the Bank affirms the message that the Namibia Dollar is more than a medium of exchange; it continues to be a unifying national symbol that belongs to every Namibian, in every town and region. Present at the event were Her Worship Cherien Kock, Mayor of Mariental, members of the Hardap Regional Council, learners from Danie Joubert Secondary School, and various community and national leaders.
3. Speaking at the ceremony, the Governor of the Bank of Namibia, Dr. Johannes !Gawaxab described the official issuance as both a moment of renewal and continuity in Namibia's monetary journey. He stated: "Today marks a historic moment as we usher into circulation the upgraded banknotes and an entirely reimagined coinage series. The Namibia Dollar has always stood as a declaration of confidence in ourselves, our economy, and our future. This upgraded series enhances the durability, inclusivity, and security of our currency, while telling the rich story of who we are as Namibians. It is more than money; it is a mirror of our nation's resilience, our heritage, and our aspirations."

4. The new coinage series has been fully reimagined for the first time in over three decades, with updated dimensions, materials, and weights to make them smaller, lighter, and more durable. Beyond functionality, the coins are rich in symbolism, representing the economic sectors that power Namibia's growth and identity. Agriculture is honoured through mahangu on the ten-cent coin, renewable energy and manufacturing are represented on the twenty-cent coin, the beauty of Namibia's tourism is showcased through Sossusvlei and Deadvlei on the fifty-cent coin, retail is captured in the one-dollar coin, while the five-dollar coin celebrates mining through the dual imagery of a rough and polished diamond. Together, the series pays tribute to the resilience and diversity of Namibia's economy and the industries that sustain livelihoods and drive progress.
5. The upgraded banknotes also carry forward Namibia's story, blending tradition with innovation. They retain the portraits of Founding Father Dr. Sam Nujoma and Kaptein Hendrik Witbooi on the front, while the reverse continues to feature the iconic wildlife that symbolises Namibia's natural heritage. Enhancements to the series include the use of a composite substrate on the ten- and twenty-dollar notes that combines the durability of polymer with the traditional feel of paper, alongside modern security features such as colour-shifting inks, transparent and embossed windows, and tactile marks for the visually impaired. The designs have been refined with cleaner lines and richer colours, offering both a fresh look and greater protection against counterfeiting.
6. The Bank of Namibia confirms that all current coins and banknotes remain legal tender and will circulate alongside the upgraded series. Members of the public are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the new security features using the "look, feel, and tilt" principle to ensure confidence when transacting. A nationwide awareness campaign will continue to support the rollout, ensuring that all Namibians are well-informed and able to use the new currency with pride and certainty.
7. Beginning 30 September 2025, the upgraded banknotes and new coins will be available at banking halls countrywide and at ATMs of commercial banks nationwide, ensuring convenient access for the public.

Issued by:

Ms. Naufiku Hamunime

Acting Deputy Director: Corporate Communications and Sustainability

Tel: (061) 283 5114 or email: info@bon.com.na