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PRESS RELEASE

BANK OF NAMIBIA SPONSORS ESARBICA

On Tuesday, 23 June 2009, the Bank of Namibia officially handed over a cheque to the amount of N\$11 000.00 towards the hosting of the 20th International bi-annual conference of the Eastern and Southern African Branch of the International Council on Archives (ESARBICA).

The conference will address the concerns of archives, libraries, museums and all the institutions that have to manage digital documents which are threatened by the fast technological change. The theme for this year's conference is "Documentary Heritage in the Digital Age" and aims at reviewing the challenges and opportunities which the digital format poses to the preservation of Africa's cultural and information heritage.

ESARBICA was established in 1969 in Kenya and forms part of the International Council on Archives with 16 member countries including Namibia. It is the second time that Namibia will host the bi-annual conference.

"The Bank of Namibia is proud to sponsor the ESARBICA conference, which aims to stimulate discussion about electronic archiving. Managing records in a digital age is poses challenges, but at the same time offers many opportunities to us as Africans. Now is the time to embrace new technology as it contributes positively to Namibia's development. Proper archiving enables us to understand the past and helps us to proactively make decisions and implement actions that will impact the future," said Helene Meintjes, Head: Corporate Communication.

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