

MEDIA RELEASE

13 August 2026

NamRA AND BOTSWANA TO LAUNCH PILOT OF AUTHORISED ECONOMIC OPERATOR MUTUAL RECOGNITION ARRANGEMENT

The Namibia Revenue Agency (NamRA) is pleased to announce the commencement of the Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) Pilot between Namibia and Botswana, scheduled for 18 August 2026.

The pilot represents a significant milestone in regional customs cooperation and trade facilitation under the Southern African Customs Union (SACU). It will facilitate the movement of goods by accredited AEO traders through the Trans Kalahari/Mamuno One-Stop Border Post and the Port of Walvis Bay.

Under the MRA, accredited AEO traders in Namibia and Botswana will receive reciprocal recognition and enjoy enhanced customs facilitation benefits, including faster clearance of goods, reduced inspections where appropriate, improved predictability and greater supply chain efficiency.

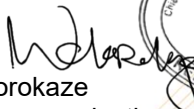
Ahead of the pilot launch, officials from NamRA, the Botswana Unified Revenue Service (BURS), the SACU Secretariat and other border agencies conducted a final dry run from the Port of Walvis Bay to the Trans Kalahari/Mamuno One-Stop Border Post to assess operational readiness, validate processes and ensure preparedness for implementation.

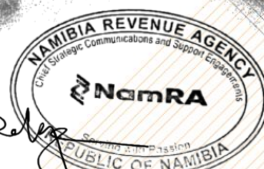
The AEO Programme is an internationally recognised customs-business partnership programme established under the World Customs Organization (WCO) SAFE Framework of Standards, which provides trade facilitation benefits to compliant and trusted businesses.

NamRA currently has 10 accredited Authorised Economic Operators across various sectors of the Namibian economy and continues to encourage eligible businesses, including importers, exporters, manufacturers, logistics providers and customs clearing agents, to participate in the programme.

The pilot phase will allow Namibia and Botswana to validate procedures and refine implementation processes ahead of the full implementation of the Mutual Recognition Arrangement, expected in April 2027.

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