

MEDIA RELEASE

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For immediate release

To all media editors

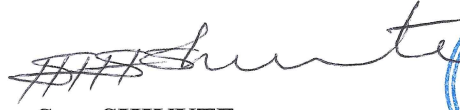
INACCURATE ARTICLE IN THE NAMIBIAN SUN NEWSPAPER – “FAT SALARIES PROPOSED AT NAMRA”

1. The Namibia Revenue Agency (NamRA) hereby expresses great disappointment in relation to the headline story published by the Namibian Sun Newspaper, in its Friday 13 August 2021 edition, titled “Fat salaries proposed at Namra”. The said article, which is laden with factual inaccuracies, might appear to be true and correct if left unchallenged.
2. As publicly reported, NamRA commenced its operations on 7 April 2021, in the main absorbing the functions previously carried out by the Inland Revenue Department and the Directorate of Customs and Excise, in line with provisions of the Namibia Revenue Agency Act 2017 (Act No. 12 of 2017).
3. It must be noted that NamRA Management has made no submission to its Board of Directors (“Board”) regarding Management salaries and no such submission or proposal is pending before the Board or being prepared for the consideration of the Board. If the Namibian Sun Newspaper persists that such submission exists, as it claims to have seen same, we encourage the Newspaper to disclose the source/author of such submission and its date of preparation and/or submission to the Board.
4. The non-existence of reported salary adjustment proposal by the NamRA Management consequently renders the entire article baseless and regrettable.
5. While we take no issue with the quotation attributed to the NamRA Commissioner Sam SHIVUTE to the effect that the salaries are commensurate to NamRA’s mandate of collecting taxes, the reference in Sam SHIVUTE’s response was to the salaries being paid to the NamRA staff. However, the article seeks to portray Sam SHIVUTE as defending the reported salary adjustment proposal. It is inconceivable how he could be justifying a proposal that does not exist.
6. We can confirm that the remuneration of NamRA’s staff is well within the remuneration guidelines provided for in terms of the Public Enterprises Governance Act 2019 (Act No. 1 of 2019).
7. We are alive to the fact that the establishment of NamRA might not be a welcomed move by everyone, especially by those who might want the current status quo to continue, where some continue to evade their tax obligation. Hence, such reports seem to be aimed at distracting the NamRA team from focusing on the assignment at hand, with the object of promoting voluntary

compliance with tax laws and optimising revenue collection for the development of our country.

8. We are committed to build a World Class Revenue Agency, serving with passion to positively impact the livelihoods of every Namibian.
9. We will not relent but shall continue serving Namibia with passion.

Issued by:



Sam SHIVUTE

COMMISSIONER: NAMIBIA REVENUE AGENCY

