



ROAD FUND NEWS

October 2016 Volume 04



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New Board of Directors for the RFA



Mr Robanus Amadhila

Director

Chairperson of the Tender and Investment Committee
Member of the Information and Communication Technology Committee
Professional Training: Entrepreneur

Mr Penda Ithindi

Board Chairperson

Member of the Human Resources and Remuneration Committee
Professional Training: Economist

Dr Simeon Amunkete

Director

Chairperson of the Human Resources Committee
Member of the Tender and Investment Committee
Professional Training: Human Resources and Remuneration Expert

Ms Naemi Henok

Director

Chairperson of the Information and Communication Technology Committee
Member of the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee
Professional Training: Support Systems Engineer

Ms Zia Stellmacher

Director

Chairperson of the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee
Member of the Tender and Investment Committee
Professional Training: Chartered Accountant

The RFA recently bid farewell to two of its Directors and welcomed three new Directors on board Team RFA. The RFA's Chairperson Mr Penda Ithindi and fellow Director, Dr Simeon Amunkete were reappointed. The new Board of Directors have been appointed with effect from 1 September 2016 for a period of three years.

The new members of Team RFA are Ms Zia Stellmacher, a Chartered Accountant currently employed by the Namibia Institute of Public Administration and Management (NIPAM), Mr Robanus Amadhila, a seasoned business man and Ms Naemi Henok, a Systems Engineer with Telecom Namibia. The

newly constituted board is very optimistic about their new roles and have expressed their willingness to work alongside the EXCO team as they carry out their fiduciary responsibilities to the benefit of our shareholder (Government of the Republic of Namibia, represented by the Minister of Finance) and all road users at large.

The new Directors were formally inducted to the RFA and spent a whole day with our EXCO team on the 8th of September 2016, as they familiarised themselves with the RFA and acquainted themselves to their new responsibilities. On behalf of the whole Team RFA we welcome its newest members

and look forward to a mutually beneficial relationship, as we work towards reaching the RFA's strategic objectives and fulfilling its mandate for the benefit of all road users.

At the same time, we would like to express our gratitude and heartfelt appreciation to our former Directors Mrs Akua Avafia and Mrs Elizabeth Asino-Joseph, for their selfless deed of serving the RFA since 21 December 2012 until 31 August 2016. Their commitment, loyalty and contributions have helped steer the RFA closer towards reaching our vision. We wish them both all the best as they pursue their respective careers and personal endeavours.

CEO's official mission to Germany



Ministerial delegation in Berlin

RFN: You recently represented the Road Fund Administration (RFA) as part of an official government delegation on a mission to Germany. Can you share with us the purpose of the mission and the significance for the RFA?

Ali Ipinge: We went on invitation from the Minister of Works and Transport, Honourable Alpheus !Naruseb, along with other CEOs and heads of institutions, including Mr Conrad Lutombi, CEO of the Roads Authority (RA), Acting CEO of the City of Windhoek Mr Hambuda and the founding Dean of the UNAM Faculty of Engineering, Professor Frank Kavishe.

We were engaged in an intensive five-day programme with our counterparts from KfW Bank and GIZ. The purpose of the mission was to discuss and harness possible support and cooperation from the German government to the Namibian Transport sector on a wide range of topics. Included in these discussions were key issues around capacity building in the engineering field, road safety, road network management, funding aspects, design of city roads, public

transport and the implementation of the smart city concept through the City of Windhoek, and to strengthen the transport sector in general. The German Minister of Economic Cooperation informed the meeting that the German government is still interested to work together with the Namibian government, and that the funding allocations from the Bilateral Agreement between Namibia and Germany could only be strengthened. In addition to the grants already in place, Germany is further willing to introduce concessional loans. As the RFA, we are looking at expanding our funding options by tapping into these loans.

RFN: What were some of the highlights of the mission and were any significant agreements reached at its conclusion between Namibia and Germany?

Ali Ipinge: The aim of the trip was not to conclude any formal agreement. The mission has however enabled us to understand our partner the GIZ, who has been providing support to the RFA through technical assistance. We currently have Mr Boris Böttcher at the RFA, who came from

Germany under that technical assistance programme and we touched on that issue with the GIZ to see how we can expand that cooperation, perhaps in another format.

RFN: You mentioned that while in Germany you were able to spend dedicated time with one of the RFA's key development partners, namely the KfW. Can you let us in on what the focus of that visit was?

Ali Ipinge: That was the second part of the trip and I was joined by two members of the RFA EXCO, Mr Rianus !Gonteb and Mr Fernando Somaeb as well as some key officials from the RA and the Ministry of Finance. This part of the visit was specifically aimed at further one-on-one discussions with KfW as it relates to the 30 million EURO loan we took up with them in November 2015, to fund the Windhoek-Okahandja dual carriageway. We looked at how the RFA is to fulfil all the conditions as stipulated in the agreement, and we had further discussions on the grant that was tied to that loan agreement. An additional 30 million EURO is on offer from KfW to fund the road sector in Namibia through the Ministry of Finance



Team from the RFA, RA and the Ministry of Finance at the KfW Head Quarters

and we further explored that possibility for the Windhoek-Okahandja road project. Those discussions are now ongoing. The other discussions focussed on the grant of the labour-based projects that the German government, through the KfW, is co-funding with the Namibian government. Labour-based projects are dealing with the construction of particularly gravel roads in the rural areas, where the use of manual labour as opposed to machines to construct a road is encouraged. This programme has been ongoing for the past five years and many roads have been constructed using that methodology. This created a lot of employment for the people along the stretch of the road. The requirements are that if a road is constructed, employment should be provided to the people from the villages where the road is running through and it has proved successful in terms of providing much needed jobs to these communities. This programme is set to continue for approximately five years. There are a few projects running currently, and I believe that it is in our best interest to ensure that those projects are successful.

Again, we clarified the modus operandi of how we need to run the programme. I think we came back with a clearer direction on how the funds under this grant are to be disbursed. The RFA has been requested to be the conduit for the payment of the German government portion. The portion of the Namibian government is paid through the RA to the beneficiaries.

RFN: We understand your official mission eventually led you to Hungary on invitation from the Consul General of Namibia to Hungary, Mr Erik Molnar. How significant was this for the RFA and the road sector as a whole in Namibia?

Ali Ipinge: The purpose of that visit was to explore avenues to expand the Road User Charging System (RUCS) and to look at other technologies to enhance some of our specific revenue streams; in this case the Mass Distance Charges (MDC), which is one of our key priorities. We are looking at automating that specific revenue stream to ensure that all the road users that are supposed to pay MDC fully comply with that, as well as ensuring that there is proper law enforcement. Mr Erik Molnar has been very instrumental in arranging these meetings with all the role players in Hungary. I was introduced to Hungarian road construction companies and had a look at the new technologies deployed. In addition, we also looked at rail as key player in the transportation of goods. We need to have a balance between what is moved on the roads and via rail to preserve the roads in Namibia. Therefore, discussions of finding a balance need to be on our agenda with particularly, TransNamib and the Ministry of Works and Transport.

I was also introduced to the Hungarian National Toll Service, that is an equivalent to the RFA Namibia. It was good to gain insight

on how they have deployed technology to manage their RUCS. The way they implemented their electronic tolling system fits into what we are looking for through the automation of the MDC. As a result, we have committed our two institutions to cooperate, and the outcome of that was a reciprocal visit by the Hungarian Toll Service to Namibia in September 2016. They have indicated their willingness to support us in future and we need to look at the specific programmes and interventions that will come out of that.

RFN: Your mission could not have been 'all work and no play'... were you able to see and experience Germany and Hungary? Please share with us some of your experiences, who knows...some of our roads may someday lead to these destinations.

Ali Ipinge: We had a chauffeur in Germany during the time the Minister was with us, but had to do a lot of walking from the hotel to KfW after he left. We however saw it as part of fitness and made the most of it. We also made use of public transport in the form of trains, which is very reliable and efficient. During our time in Germany, we had the opportunity to witness one of the European League final soccer matches. My time in Hungary, was my first visit to Eastern Europe and I happened to get a taste of the real goulash, with its origin in Hungary. I enjoy seafood and was pleasantly surprised by the cuisine on offer.

Ariamsvlei Cross Border Cultural Day and Clean-up Campaign



Cultural Show

On 26 August 2016, the RFA Cross Border Charges (CBC) office at Ariamsvlei, took part in the Cross Border Cultural Day and Clean-up Campaign, an initiative by all government institutions operating at the border. The event organising committee consisted of elected representatives of all government institutions.

During their meetings the committee decided to host a beauty pageant and a braai to raise initial funds for the event. Further to that all institutions were requested to seek additional funding for the event from their respective headquarters. The funds were mainly used to purchase items and

refreshments that would be needed during the clean-up campaign by the officials. The remaining funds were donated in the form of twenty-five corrugated iron sheets to Kabouterland Kindergarten in Ariamsvlei. The RFA donated an amount of five thousand Namibian dollars towards the event.

The objectives of the event were to:

1. Keep the border area tidy, as it creates the first impression of Namibia to visitors and investors.
2. Strengthen relations, overcome communication barriers and to build trust amongst all stakeholders operating at the border.

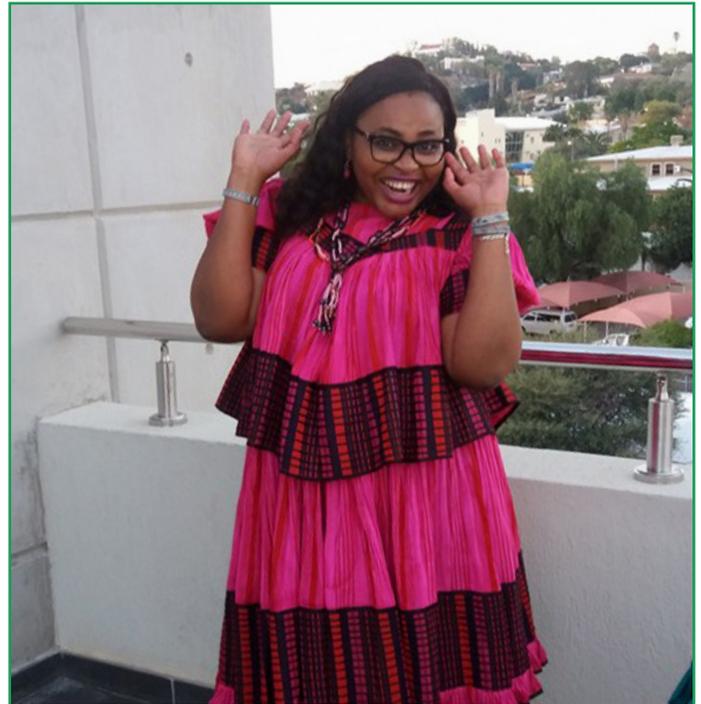
3. Create a playfield not only to interact but also to gain wellness through sports.

The event highlighted performances and cuisines from various cultural groups. The teams competed in tug-of-war, soccer, egg-and-spoon race, bag jumping and athletics. The event was concluded with a mass clean-up operation of the border and surrounding areas. According to Mr Asley Haukambe, Supervisor of the RFA CBC office, the event was a huge success and they have achieved the set objectives. All stakeholders took an active role in the activities and that created a lot fun, not just for the border officials but for the Ariamsvlei community as a whole.



Spotlight

Road Fund News (RFN) sits down with the very patient, soft-spoken and courteous, Ms. Lydia Mpinge. Lydia currently holds the position of Assistant Human Capital and has all the qualities expected from someone in her position. She has been with the RFA since December 2010. Here she talks about her career, family and life's lessons.



RFN: How has RFA helped you in your career development?

LM: I started off as Corporate Services Administrator, where I have been exposed to different areas of the Human Resources and Procurement disciplines. I more often had to juggle my duties with both hands and sometimes my feet to be able to get my work done, and this taught me resilience and dedication. It also inspired me to further my studies so that I can eventually work in my favourite field of interest, which is Human Resources Management.

RFN: What advice would you give to recent new hires?

LM: Be open and learn all you can. Never think in one direction only, rather make your place of thought outside the box. Be an inspiring team player and take-on the "Win-Win" mentality as a primary guide to succeed in your career.

RFN: You are known to be very patient and helpful even under pressure. Please share with us, how you manage to be calm?

LM: I am not a perfectionist, but I consciously

try not to lose focus or even my senses. If possible I try to avoid the stressor, because negativity is like a poison. Most importantly I hyper-focus on the task at hand. This allows me and the team around me to calmly solve problems and then execute a plan.

RFN: What are three career lessons you've learned thus far?

LM: One important thing I have learned is that, as you grow in your position, the responsibilities expand tremendously. This is a challenge sometimes, but then again, a challenge is always an inspiration to do better. Secondly, not just doing it right myself, but helping everyone on the team do it right, is what ultimately leads to success in any project. Lastly, being effective as an individual and never cease to learn.

RFN: Motto or personal mantra?

LM: GOD made me and I AM a beautiful creation and I LIVE like it.

RFN: What's the worst thing you did as a kid?

LM: Stealing sugar (laughs out loud)

RFN: Tell us about your family?

LM: I have a lovely son, whom I would love to see grow into a successful young man. I am the only child of my parents and I have been brought-up in a very disciplined home where values and principles have always been given priority. My father passed away but my mother is still alive. Despite her being the only parent now, she has been a great source of motivation in my life.

RFN: Top 3 life highlights?

LM: Holding my minutes old son in my arms. Being recognised for my skills and appointed as Acting Head Corporate Services even if I did not have any assistance to do all the work. I made it through, and I did it my way! I have succeeded in many aspects of my life and my career, and I changed other people's lives in a positive way.

RFN: What's on your bucket list?

LM: To visit Phuket, Thailand and other adventurous places.



Health



October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Breast cancer is the number 1 cancer amongst women in Namibia. Most women diagnosed with breast cancer, are older than 40 years. However, breast cancer can also occur in younger women.

Risk factors:

- Family history – about 10% of breast cancers the patients are older than 40 and have a family occurrence of cancer
- Early menstruation – before teens
- Late menopause – after the age of 50
- Long term hormone replacement therapy
- Never had children or first child born after 30 years

Lifestyle plays important role in breast cancer:

- DO NOT use a diet high in animal fat
- DO NOT consume more than 2 drinks a day
- DO NOT smoke
- DO NOT be obese or overweight
- DO NOT be lazy – become physically active / exercise!

Breast cancer is the number 1 cancer amongst women in Namibia. Most women diagnosed with breast cancer, are older than 40 years. However, breast cancer can also occur in younger women.

What can I do?

- Get to know your breast, their shape size and feel. Do monthly breast self-examination (BSE)
- BSE is the way you can detect changes in your breast.
- You can do it once a month, a week after your last menstruation day.
- Go for clinical breast examination once a year with your health care provider.
- Ladies older than 40 can also go for mammogram – an x-ray of the breast, it is important to go to your doctor or clinic.

Early detection saves lives: You can't prevent breast cancer, but if detected early, it can be treated successfully

Signs and Symptoms:

- Lump in breast or armpit
- A swelling in armpit
- An unusual increase in the size of breast
- Nipple retraction
- Nipple discharge – bloody brownish
- Change in the skin around nipple
- One breast lower than the other – nipples at different levels
- Puckering of skin of breast (dimples/orange)
- Redness around nipple that itches or is scaly
- Remember there is a breast change due to your menstruation period.
- Some lumps can also be cysts – a lump filled with fluid – and are usually not cancer.

Source: <http://www.can.org.na/index.php/whatisancer>

New Personnel

Welcome to:



Ms Agnes Simana

**Supervisor: Trans Kalahari
Border Post**



Ms Helena Matonane

**Administrative Assistant: Human
Capital**



Mr Ruben Festus

Border Post Collector: Oranjemund



Ms Penehafo Iihua

Border Post Collector: Kashamane



New Born Babies

Congratulations to:

Mr Talaska Katjiruru, on the safe arrival of his son Hupiree
Katjiruru on **4th October 2016**

Mr Michael Khutenda, on the safe arrival of his son Jerome
Khutenda on **12 September 2016**



Birthdays October

Frans Josua	2
John Ali Ipinge (CEO)	6
Innocentia Gei-khoibes	15
Bernice Sethier	16
Lukas Johannes	21
Eulandie Kamwi	22
Trevor Muituti	22
Nicoletta Snyders	25
Helena Motonane	25
Matilda Newaka	27
Erenst bock	28
Justus Geingob	31



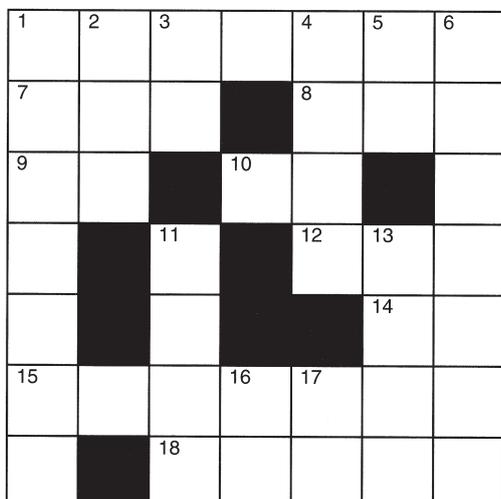
Riddles

Riddles to bend your brain:

1. What goes up and down without moving?
2. Some months have 30 days, some months have 31 days; how many have 28?
3. What has no beginning, end or middle and touches every continent?

Answers: 1. Stairs, 2. They all do, 3. The ocean

Crossword Puzzle



Across

1. Learner; one who studies
7. Opposite of bottom
8. Female deer
9. Preposition meaning "over and in contact with"
10. For example (Latin abbreviation)
12. And the others (Latin abbreviation)
14. Exclamation of surprise
15. Test; inspect closely
18. Not ever

Down

1. Tales; short fictional narratives; anecdotes
2. 2,000 pounds
3. Opposite of down
4. Rim; border; lip
5. Negative response; opposite of yes
6. Instructor
11. Conjunction used with comparative adjectives and adverbs
13. Vocal or musical sound; a particular pitch in an intonation
16. Objective case of the pronoun "I"
17. Roman numeral for four
22. You and me

Thank You! Until Next Time

We would like to hear from you...
Please send all your comments, feedback or news suggestions to
bgarises@rfanam.com.na

Swakopmund 205

