



Electoral Commission of Namibia

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MEDIA RELEASE

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STATE OF PREPAREDNESS TO CONDUCT SWAKOPMUND CONSTITUENCY BY-ELECTION

The Electoral Commission of Namibia (ECN) is pleased to inform the Namibian public and the electorate that the preparations for the Swakopmund Constituency by-election are on course. The by-election is scheduled to take place on **12th August 2022**.

A vacancy occurred on Monday, 16th May 2022 in the Constituency following relieving of the sitting Councilor, Ms. Ciske Howard-Smith by the Independent Patriots for Change (IPC) Party. The Regional Councils Act No.22 of 1992, Section 10(1) (c) prescribes that a member of a Regional Council shall vacate his/her office: "in the case of a member who has been nominated as a candidate by a political party in accordance with the laws governing elections for members of regional councils, ceases to be a member of that political party;". In reference to this section, the ECN is obligated in terms of the law to conduct a by-election in that particular constituency within 90 days from the date the vacancy has occurred.

The ECN conducted the Supplementary Registration of Voters (SRV) in the constituency from **06th – 08th June 2022**. The final voters register was made available on **27th July 2022** with **37,406** total registered voters for the Swakopmund Constituency.

Nominated Candidates

The nomination of candidates was concluded on the **02nd July 2022**. Below are the names of candidates that have been duly nominated:

Duly Nominated Candidate	Political Party/Organisation/Independent candidate
DANTU ZEROLDA V.	UNITED DEMOCRATIC FRONT OF NAMIBIA (UDF)
DAUSAB RODGER	NAMIBIA ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS (NEFF)
KATIVA LOUISA	INDEPENDENT PATRIOTS FOR CHANGE (IPC)
MUSHEKO TANGENI H.	LANDLESS PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT (LPM)
NARIB WILLIWARD	INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE (IC)
PASCHEKA LELANIE	POPULAR DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT (PDM)
SALOMON NEHEMIAH N.	SWAPO PARTY OF NAMIBIA (SWAPO)
VON SEYDLITZ-KURZBACH BERNARD KARL	UNITED PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT (UPM)

Voter Education

The voter education campaign for the Swakopmund Constituency to educate residents on the importance of casting their votes amongst other electoral matters, commenced on **18th July 2022** and will be concluded on **11th August 2022**. Face to face, digital media, posters and radio are currently some of the mediums employed to ensure the ECN reaches the electorate in the constituency.

Printing of Ballot papers

The ECN had completed the bidding process for the printing of ballot papers in terms of the provisions of the Public Procurement Act No.15 of 2015. The bid was awarded to Solitaire Press. The verification of the Sample Ballot Papers by authorized representatives of the political parties and candidates has been successfully concluded and the printing of Final Ballot Papers was done on the **2nd August 2022** followed by packing process on the **03rd August 2022**.

Dispatch of sensitive election materials

All sensitive materials for the Swakopmund Constituency by-election will be dispatched on **07th August 2022** under strict security and escort of the Namibian Police. The materials will be placed under safekeeping and custody at a police station within the Constituency.



Training of polling officials, police officers and election agents

A total number of **145** polling officials have been recruited to make up **29 Teams, 26 Fixed** and **3 Mobile Teams** for the conduct of the by-election. The training of election agents and police officers will be conducted on the **04th – 05th August 2022**, while training of polling officials will be conducted between the **06th - 10th August 2022**. The ECN is obliged, in terms of Section 65(2)(a) read together with Section 69 of the Electoral Act, to provide training to election officials and all other stakeholders to ensure credible elections.

Issuing of duplicate voters cards

A voters' card is used to identify a registered voter during an election process. In the event that a voter may have lost or damage their voter card, the eligible voter can apply for a duplicate voter card for the Swakopmund Constituency By-election. As integral part of our decentralization strategy bring services closure to our registered voters in this constituency, the ECN will decentralize the issuance of duplicate Voter Cards to our Regional Voter Education Office in Swakopmund for this purpose. In order to receive a duplicate voters' card, a registered voter must bring along the following documentations:

- a) A sworn declaration from the police of the facts and circumstances relating to the loss; and
- b) A Namibian Identification Document (ID); or
- c) A valid Green Namibian Passport.

In terms of Section 35(1), no duplicate voter registration card may be issued on any day determined as a polling day in respect of any election concerned. Hence, the issuance of duplicate voter cards to registered voters for the Swakopmund Constituency will take place from **08th August - 11th August 2022** at the Swakopmund ECN Voter Education Office, Meeresruh CC Building, c/o Woermann and Hendrik Witbooi Street between **08h00 – 17h00**.

Deployment of teams

Twenty-nine (29) teams will be deployed on **11th August 2022** for the commencement of the polls on the **12th August 2022**.



Coordination of polling process within the Constituency

The Returning Officer for the Swakopmund Constituency by-election, Mr. Amos Nguaiko, can be reached at +264 812403234 for any queries related to the polling activities for this Constituency by-election.

Finally, the Commission encourages all voters to go out in numbers to exercise their democratic right and VOTE on the **12th August 2022**.

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Issued by:



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