



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES

OPENING SPEECH

FOR THE

STATISTICAL DATA-FLOW WORKSHOP

BY

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NATMIRC-SWAKOPMUND

NAMIBIA

Director of Ceremonies,

Director of Policy Planning and Economics- Ms. Anna
Erastus

Director of Operations- Mr. Hafeni Mungungu

Members of the Media

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen

I take pleasure in welcoming you all and open this very important statistical data flow workshop today. This workshop brought together all staff members that are involved in the process of data collection, to collaborate, discuss and find solution to the challenges that are affecting the process of data flow within the Ministry.

There is a need to find and resolve the bottlenecks that are hindering us from producing high quality and timely delivered statistical data, as reliable statistics are a crucial criterion for evidence-based planning and policy formulation; at both national and local levels.

**Ladies and gentlemen,
Members of the media,**

I am sure you all know the importance of the fisheries sector in Namibia and the major role it plays in contributing to national development, food security, sustainable development, the improvement of livelihoods and its important contribution towards the realization of Vision 2030 as well as the achievement of National Development Plans (NDPs) and the Harambee Prosperity Plan (HPP). Our NDP5 reporting shows that there is a slight decrease of 3% in landings of 2017/18 (524 440MT) as compared to what was landed in 2016/17, (540 811MT). I believe this amount could improve if we establish an effective data flow system.

Thus, we need to produce timely data, which will ease the process of reporting promptly to the request of our stakeholders and indicate the progress of our set goals and initiatives in NDP5. It is only through timely, accurate and quality data that we can bring about meaningful changes to the economy.

**Ladies and gentlemen,
Members of the media,**

The world is rapidly changing and in this age our data users have an increased expectation of high quality data that is fit for a purpose. This can only be achieved if we all work together in a cohesive and collaborative manner. I thus urge you to create a well-coordinated data collection system that enables the Ministry to accurately monitor Fisheries landings operation.

With these few words, I now officially open this workshop and I wish you fruitful deliberations.

I thank you