



Media Statement

Title: *“The Namibian Economy – Past, Present and Future”*
Date: 10 November 2016
Time: 13h30 to 18h00
Venue: Safari Hotel

The Economic Association of Namibia, in partnership with the Hanns Seidel Foundation and The Namibian will host a constructive review of the state of the economy under the theme: ‘The Namibian Economy, Past, Present and Future’ on 10 November 2016, at the Safari Hotel.

Namibia has been an independent country for over 26 years. Over this period, the country has made notable developmental progress with most social and economic indicators showing major improvement. The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has grown substantially, resulting in increased per-capita income and a more equal distribution of income. Furthermore, poverty levels have fallen, access to education and health services has improved, as has the living standard for many Namibians.

However, having traversed its first quarter century of independence, the country continues to face a number of social and economic challenges, ranging from remaining high levels of unemployment and inequality, to fiscal challenges, education, health and housing issues and developing service infrastructure constraints.

These challenges are both as a result of unaddressed historic challenges, as well as the result of more recent developments. However, none of our challenges are insurmountable. That said, in order to see their rectification, constant innovation and new thinking is required.

The Conference provides a platform to increase collaboration between the public and private sectors, in the interest of the country’s continued developmental progress. Ideas can be shared as to how Namibia can proceed for the next quarter century. Speakers will include: Frans Cronje (South Africa Institute of Race Relations), Nangula Uaandja (PricewaterhouseCoopers), Honourable Tom Alweendo (Minister of Economic Planning). The conference will conclude with a panel discussion.

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