# Proof of public consultation Meeting minutes and attendance register

19 September 2022

**PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING MINUTES:** 

ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING ASSESSMENT (ESA) FOR THE PROPOSED SMALL-SCALE MINING ACTIVITIES PN MINING CLAIMS (MCS)

NO. 73353 - 73352 LOCATED NEAR OKANGUATI IN KUNENE REGION, NAMIBIA

**Date:** Tuesday, 13 September 2022

**Time:** 12h30 – 15H50

Venue: Under the tree near the water point, Okanguati

The Public Consultation Meeting was attended by thirty-six (36) people, including: an environmental consultant, a GIS technician, and an

Archaeologist from Excel Dynamic Solutions (Pty) Ltd (EDS), representatives from Epupa Constituency Office, representative from Okanguati

Settlement office, Traditional Councils from Thom; Kapika; Hikuminde; Ovitongo and Otjiyandjasemo Traditional Authority, representatives from

Ovitongo Conservancy, and community members from Ovitongo village (farmers, residence ), Okanguati and nearby people -Please refer to the

attached attendance register

1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOMING REMARKS

The meeting was officially opened by Mr. Mathew Tjindunda (in Otjiherero) with a prayer. He later expressed gratitude to everyone in attendance

for making time to attend the meeting. He introduces the chief and all the traditional councils that were in the meeting.

He then handed the floor to Ms. Aili lipinge (the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) / Consultant) to introduce herself and her

colleagues. Ms. lipinge expressed gratitude to everyone in attendance for making time to attend the meeting. She briefly explained to the

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attendees what the meeting was all about and why they were invited (with reference to the Environmental Management Act (EMA) No. 7 of 2007 and its 2012 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations on Public Consultation).

Given the fact that some of the meeting attendees were elders and Otjiherero is a well-spoken language in that area, Mr. Tjikunda Kulunga translate for the elders and everyone who does not understand English (from English to Otjiherero). This was to ensure transparency and effective communication and make sure that all comments and other inputs presented in the local language were recorded in the minutes for consideration in the ESA Report.

The meeting attendance register was then circulated for the attendees to write down their names and contact details and sign so that they could be added to the list of interested and affected parties (I&APs) and receive further information on the ESA process.

### 2. MEETING AGENDA AND PRESENTATION

The agenda of the meeting included the following:

### 2.1. Brief Description of the Project

Ms.lipinge provided a short description of the planned project and its associated activities, the Environmental Scoping Assessment (ESA) process, and the reason why the proponent appointed EDS, as an independent environmental consultant to carry out the EIA and Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) application.

### 2.2. Presentation of Potential Project Impacts:

To ensure transparency and provide clarity to the attendees, the Environmental Consultants also presented the potential pre-identified positive, negative environmental, and social impacts.

### 2.3. Public Open Discussion (Interactive Session):

Ms. lipinge provided the meeting attendees the opportunity to raise their concerns or issues and or comment on the proposed project activities. The issues and comments are presented in **Table 1** below.

### Table 1: Comments and issues raised during the consultation meeting

Comment	Commenter name and issue or	Response and name of responder:
or issue	comment or question	
No.		
1.	Where are this MCs application?	Ms. Aili lipinge: The MCs are located Southwest of Okanguti, in OvitongoMr Karunga from Okanguati Settlement office gave clarities where the claims are according to the map with the help of Stephanus (The GIS technician from EDS)
2.	What is next after this public consultation  How can the community member get access to the report, Can Mr. Toivo from the constituency office have the report for us?	Ms. Aili lipinge: After the meeting, we will share the minutes of this meeting with all registered Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP) and then incorporate all comments and issues raised by I&AP (during the meeting or via email) into the draft ESA report and the Environmental Management Plan (EMP). These documents will be shared with all registered I&AP for review for two weeks. (As per request, Mr. Toivo from the constituency office agreed to have a hard copy of our report, in his office). Once the review of the draft ESA report and the EMP is done, the documents will be finalized and submitted to the Environmental Commissioner at the Department of Environmental Affairs and Forestry (DEAF) for evaluation and consideration of an ECC.
3.	Does being at the meeting and signing the attendance register	<b>Ms. Aili lipinge:</b> The meeting is part of the ESA process, in accordance with the 2012 EIA Regulations (sections 21 to 24) on Public Consultation, of which such meetings are required. The meetings are aimed at face-to-face project information

Comment	Commenter name and issue or	Response and name of responder:
or issue	comment or question	
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	mean that we have agreed to the	sharing, gathering community members (Interested and
	project?	affected Parties)'s inputs, and raising comments or concerns to
		be incorporated into the that will be incorporated in the project
		planning and design. The I&APs' comments will also help us as
		consultants formulate a better ESA Report and develop a
		practical Environmental Management Plan (EMP).
4.	There are a lot of unemployed	Ms. Aili lipinge: Noted,
4.		ws. Am ilpinge. Noted,
	youth in our area, can they please	
	consider employing residents of	
	Ovitongo and Okanguati before	
	they consider anyone? The	
	proponent can use the settlement	
	office, they are having data of all	
	unemployed people in Okanguati.	
5.	Can the proponent please inform	Ms. Aili lipinge: Noted
	the community once they are	
	granted an ECC, not only the	
	traditional authority but they must	
	call a meeting like this one.	

Comment	Commenter name and issue or	Response and name of responder:
or issue	comment or question	
No.		
6.	Our quietness does not mean we do not want the project but, it is because we have heard of projects of that nature.  There is a similar project at Otjorute, we are happy and looking forward to the project,	Ms. Aili lipinge: Noted and Thank you
7.	What is the state of this claim - will the proponent start with mining already??	Ms. Aili lipinge: The Claims are still at an application stage, for them to be awarded, they are subjected to the ECC, that is why we are conducting an Environmental Scoping Assessment (ESA), then our reporting will be evaluated for the claims to be awarded the ECC or not.

### FINAL REMARKS AND CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

Ms. lipinge thanked the attendees for their input. She indicated to them that all the comments and concerns have been noted down for consideration and will be addressed and incorporated into the draft ESA report and the Environmental Management Plan (EMP).

Furthermore, they were informed that the draft meeting minutes, the ESA report, and the EMP will be shared with them for review and further comments. These documents will be made available through emails provided on the attendance register. Once the review of the draft ESA report and the EMP is done, the documents will be finalized and submitted to the Environmental Commissioner at the Department of Environmental Affairs and Forestry (DEAF) for evaluation and consideration of an ECC.

The meeting was adjourned at 15h30.



Reg. 2019/0817

Excel Dynamic Solutions

# Public Meeting Attendance Register

PROJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING ASSESSMENT (ESA) OF SMALL-SCALE MINING ACTIVITIES ON MINING CLAIMS (MCs) No. 73353 - 73362 LOCATED NEAR OKANGUATI, KUNENE REGION

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Date: 13 SEPTEMBER 2.02.2

Time: 11:3.9

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## Proof of public consultation Newspaper advert

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