## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT**

Exploration Activities for Base & Rare Metals, Industrial Minerals, Precious Metals and Semi-Precious Stones on Mining Claims 73612, 73613, 73614, 73615 and 73616 in Kunene Region



### **PREPARED FOR:**

Mr. Romeo Nauseb P.O. Box 25759 Windhoek



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### **Abbreviations**

BID Background Information Document

DEA Directorate of Environmental Affairs

EA Environmental Assessment

ECC Environmental Clearance Certificate

EIA Environmental Impact Assessment

EMA Environmental Management Act No.7 Of 2007

EMP Environmental Management Plan

IAPs Interested and Affected Parties

MEFT Ministry Of Environment, Forestry and Tourism

MME Ministry of Mines and Energy

#### 1. Introduction

The proponent, Mr. Romeo Nauseb, intends to carry out exploration activities of Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Minerals, Precious Metals and Semi-Precious Stones on Mining Claims in Kunene Region. The five (5) mining claims total area measures 86, 8723 hectares (ha) in extent.

This anticipated project is a listed activity as stated in the Environmental Management Act (EMA) No.7 of 2007 and its EIA regulations of 2012. Prior to commencing of this proposed project, approval is required for an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) to be issued by the competent authority to the proponent. The competent authority is the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism.

For this purpose, the environmental assessment will outline all environmental, social and economic possible impacts (both positive and negative) that the exploration activities might cause in the study and surrounding area.

The study area receives an average rainfall of roughly 200-300mm. Ground water is the main source of water supply in the area.

Out-dated procedures of trenches and shallow pitting will be used; reverse circulation drilling will be used for deeper targets. All holes that will be drilled will be covered fully. Likely negative impacts might include: noise pollution from drilling and heavy equipment/machines, air pollution from dust emissions of drilling activities will be suppressed as well and the risk of ground water contamination from grease, lubricants, etc. will be monitored accordingly daily to ensure that environmental measures and compliance is adhered to all the time for the duration of the project. Possible positive impacts of the proposed exploration activities will include: employment creation, skills and knowledge transfer.

Continuous consulting with the residents shall be carried out at all times by the proponent to identify any concerns or issues, and to ensure that suitable mitigation and controlling/management measures are further established.

### **1.1 Purpose of this Document**

This BID serves to provide a brief summary of the proposed project and the approach in which Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs) can become involved in the proposed environmental assessment process.

Additional documents will be made available at various stages during the environmental assessment process to offer Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs) more information and opportunities to raise issues of concern and suggestions for greater benefits.

Other documents to complement this BID will be submitted at the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) and the Directorate of Environmental Affairs (DEA) at the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) for evaluation as part of the application process for the required Environmental Clearance Certificate.

### 1.2 Objectives of this Environmental Scoping Report

The below are the objectives of this scoping report on the proposed exploration activities on the above mentioned Mining Claims in Kunene region:

- i. Define the need and desirability of the intended project activity.
- ii. Legislation and regulations have been taken into consideration in the assessment and preparation of this report.
- iii. Provide a depiction of the proposed activity and its location.
- iv. Provide information of the public consultation/involvement process.
- v. Report environmental assessment outcomes, provide details of the consequences and importance of the proposed project activity to all stakeholders/participants involved in this process.

### 2. Locality Map of the Proposed Project

The mining claims can accessed using D3703 road from Opuwo. GPS coordinates (latitude: -18.024496° and longitude: 13.760780°). Refer to locality map below (Figure 1), for the representation of the location of the anticipated exploration project on mining claims 73612-73616.



Figure 1: Location of the Mining Claims in Kunene Region.

## 5. Conclusion

Continuous consultation/engaging with the residents shall be carried out at all times by the proponent to identify any concerns or issues, and to ensure that suitable mitigation and controlling/management measures are further established.