

Struggle kids march again

Emmency Nuukala

bout 70 frustrated children of the liberation struggle marched to the parliament building yesterday but were blocked.

The group says they are running out of patience and time and wants government to deliver on the promises of fishing quotas and jobs.

The group demanded to see Prime Minister Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila as they say her office had promised to give them an audience on 5 November 2022. This was after the group had handed over a petition on 17 October.

The group, which is said to have marched illegally without notifying the police, included breastfeeding mothers and fathers carrying crying

Singing struggle songs, the frustrated "struggle kids" were ultimately stopped by the police at the parliament gates where they came to an agreement to allow two representatives to seek an audience with the prime minister.

The two, Johannes Kamati and Ndamonoghenda Julius returned disappointed, saying they were once again informed the prime minister was out of office.

The acting executive director in the Office of the Prime Minister, Erastus Amutenya, who received them, gave them a note reading, "once she is back, this office will inform you of the possible date of appointment to come and see her."

"We are here to ask the prime minister about that court order that has been telling them that the ombudsman said that we should not be recruited as 'special," said a dejected Julius.

A decision by Cabinet to set aside certain jobs within the public service and employ children of the liberation



No go... The struggle children were told their gathering is illegal yesterday as they attempted to march to the Office of the Prime Minister. Photo: Emmency Nuukala

 $struggle\,without\,them\,going\,through$ the recruitment process, as required by law, was declared unlawful by the High Court in March 2021.

Then ombudsman John Walters said children of the liberation struggle do not fit the criteria of affirmative action which may be applied to racially disadvantaged persons, women and persons with disabilities and nor do they meet the conditions set out in the Veterans

"The fact that the reserved jobs within the public service are not subject to advertisement and are therefore specially set-aside only for the children of the liberation struggle - the result of the decision is that other qualifying Namibian citizens are denied the opportunity to compete for those vacant posts," said Walters.

According to Walters, the office of the ombudsman investigated after it received numerous complaints from previously disadvantaged Namibian citizens.

The findings of that investigation, according to Walters, indicated that all Namibian qualifying persons who seek employment in entry-level positions within the public service and are not children of the liberation struggle would not be given an opportunity to compete for those positions.

The demonstrators' petition further states their plight has been ignored since 2008. The group feels neglected and abandoned, as they have been camping at two different sites with no hope for a future. They ask that government keeps their promises of giving them jobs, giving them land, allocating fishing quotas to the group and amending the Veterans Act for them to benefit from projects and the veterans fund.

"We demand the government find the solution as soon as possible because time is against us and we are running out of age," reads the

Cheetah, union cement wage deal

Staff Reporter

The Mineworkers Union of Namibia (MUN) and

Cheetah Cement yesterday reached a wage agreement to end the three-month strike that has crippled the Otjiwarongo-based plant.

Eighty employees of Cheetah Cement, which is the trading name of the Chinese-owned company Whale Rock Cement (WRC), have been striking for the last three months, after the company and the MUN failed to reach an agreement in negotiations about wage increases and improved conditions of

"We would like to place on record that the company's generous offer is not based on an admission of affordability but rather a commitment to bring an end to the prolonged wage dispute," WRC general manager Kevin Lee said in

a statement yesterday. The agreement will see workers receiving a salary increment of N\$1 000 across the board backdated to January this year. The increase will be implemented with the return of workers to work and will be calculated on a pro-rata basis for the payment at the end of this

month, whereby payment of the full amount shall be made at the end of December. Striking workers are expected to resume work today.

The agreement will also see workers receiving N\$1 000 increase in housing allowance across board which is currently calculated at 5% of each employee's basic salary.

Other increases include the company paying 80% of the main member's medical aid contribution, introduction of

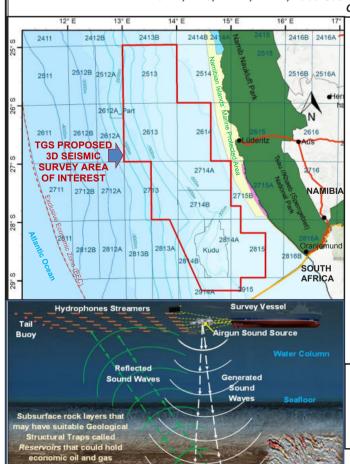


a new pension fund which will be introduced in January and a back-pay of 12 months which will be calculated on the basic salary increase of N\$1 000 across the board which will be paid within 14 days after the final signature of the wage agreement.

Agreement... The Mineworkers Union of Namibia and Cheetah Cement yesterday reached a wage agreement to end the protracted strike. Photo: Nampa

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE (ECC) TGS Geophysical Company (UK) Limited (the Proponent) Proposed 3D Seismic Survey on Selected Areas covering Blocks 2513, 2613,

2614B, 2713, 2714A, 2714B, Kudu Gas Field 2814A, and 2814B and Portions of Blocks 2813A, 2814B, 2914A, 2915 and 2815, Orange and Lüderitz Basins Offshore Namibia



TGS Geophysical Company (UK) Limited (Proponent) is proposing to conduct 3D Seismic Survey on selected areas within the 63780km² Area of Interest (AOI) covering Blocks 2513, 2613, 2614B, 2713, 2714A, 2714B, Kudu Gas Field 2814A, and 2814B and Portions of Blocks 2813A, 2814B, 2914A, 2915 and 2815 falling in the Orange and Lüderitz Basins Offshore Namibia. The overall aim of the proposed 3D seismic survey is to map the subsurface of the targeted areas in support of the ongoing petroleum exploration activities in the Orange and Lüderitz Basins, following on the discovery of oil and gas in the Orange Basin this year. Although offshore seismic surveys operations in Namibia began as far back as 1968, a lot more still need to be done to have a full understanding of the petroleum systems of the deep-water offshore Namibia. The datasets from the proposed 3D seismic surveys seismic surveys will provide critical insight into the regional and local subsurface regological evolution. petroleum systems of the deep-water offshore Namibia. The datasets from the proposed 3D seismic surveys seismic surveys will provide critical insight into the regional and local subsurface geological evolution, deep-water offshore basin architecture, depositional, structural history and delineate potential drill-ready subsurface potential reservoirs likely to be situated kilometres below the seafloor. Seismic survey data sets to be generated is not only used for petroleum exploration but also highly useful for other marine / seafloor related studies and researches such as Deep-Sea Minerals (DSM) exploration and production and the search for natural suitable Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) terrains as one of the possible options for Climate Change long-term global mitigation strategies.

In the process of searching (exploration) for oil and gas, seismic survey data sets are used to reduce the risk of drilling multiple dry wells, improve the chances for commercial discovery and reduces the environmental impacts of drilling more wells. Marine seismic survey involves a vessel towing airguns (energy source) which are used to release compressed air to generate seismic acoustic signals Awaves at regular intervals. The controlled generated acoustic waves travel through the water column deep into the subsurface where acoustic waves get reflected by various rock formations at different depth below the seafloor. When the reflected acoustic waves return to the surface, they are recorded and measured by receiving devices called hydrophones. Geophysicists, and petroleum engineers use sophisticated software to process the seismic data sets and create subsurface images /maps showing potential drill-ready subsurface geological structures called reservoirs that may contain potential commercial hydrocarbons resources. 3D Seismic survey is a detailed local mapping / imaging methodology aimed at de-risking an exploration project by establishing a drill-ready local validated respective in early services within a Sedimentary Rasin alidated prospect/s or lead/s scale models of an exploration area of interest within a Sedimentary Basin

proposed 3D seismic survey will be conducted using a MARPOL / Namibian Maritimes Laws compliant vessels and will adop international best practices such as seasonality and survey implementation timing, establishment of buffer zones, use of Marine Mammal Observers (MMOs) & Fisheries Liaison Officers (FLOs), use of Passive Acoustic Monitoring (PAM) technology, soft starts and 'pre-firing' observations, termination of firing in the 500m exclusion zone and use of turtle friendy tail buoys. The proposed 3D seismic survey activities cannot be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) as required by the Environmental Management Act, 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations 30 of 2012. In fulfilment of the environmental requirements, the Proponent has appointed Risk-Based Solutions (RBS) CC as the environmental / permitting derisking Consultant, led by Dr Sindila Mwiya and supported by Ms Emerita Ashipala and Mr Samison Mulonga as the Environmental Assessment Practitioners (EAPs) to prepare EIA and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) Reports to support the application for ECC. Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are hereby invited to register and submit written inputs / objections with respect to the proposed 3D seismic surveys covering portions of the Orange and Lüderitz Basins, offshore Namibia. A Background Information Document (BID) and Project Reports are available for comments upon registration as a stakeholder / Interested and / Affected Party (I&/AP). Note: In terms of the provisions of the EIA Regulation 23 (1), an interested and / or affected party is required to disclose any direct business, financial, personal, or other interest which that party may have in the approval or refusal of the ECC application.

Register By Sending an Email / SMS with your Names, Organisation, Contact Details and Declaration / ure of Interest to: Email: frontdesk@rbs.com.na and Mobile: +264 812772546
Attention: Dr Sindila Mwiya (PhD, PG Cert, MPhil, BEng (Hons), Pr Eng), Disclosure of Interest to: Email: frontdesk

Public meetings will be organised in Lüderitz and / or Oranjemund during the month of November 2022 depending on the public interest / number of registered stakeholders

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Market Watch

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>> COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

SOUTH AFRICAN BREWERIES GETS NEW LOGO

(SAB) has launched a new logo which the company says represents its positive outlook for the country, with its CEO optimistic about local prospects - even as he expects the merger of Heineken and Distell will bring more competition.

"We are seeing a future with more cheers, so the gold arc represents the passion we have for the beer, the red is the passion for the country and where the two meet is where passion meets purpose, and our purpose is to really propel this country forward," Zoleka Lisa, vice-president of corporate affairs for SAB, said of the new logo.

In an interview with News24 following the rebranding launch on Wednesday, CEO Richard Rivett-Carnac said that the "fundamentals are very strong in SA", adding that while GDP growth is low, it was nonetheless still increasing and should kick up a gear with the government's energy plan and other structural

He believed government was focusing on the "right things" like solving the energy crisis, and water and transport infrastructure problems, as well as fighting crime.

"The government is very aware of these issues and working closely with the private sector to try to solve them. We just need to do things faster and implement faster. If we can unlock those four things, it will make a huge difference to the country.

At the same time, he said South Africa's population, which is young, is also growing, which should offer support to SAB's growth ambi-

TENCENT'S PLAN BOOSTS PROSUS, NASPERS

Tencent pledged to distribute the majority of its shares in meal delivery giant Meituan to investors, as China's social media leader ramps up plans to reduce its extensive holdings across the world's largest internet industry.

Tencent, which had announced plans to pare its stake in online retailer JD.com Inc., will dole out more than 958 million Class B stock in Meituan as a special dividend to existing shareholders. Tencent announced the move as it reported revenue shrank for the second straight quarter, underscoring the extent to which China's worsening economy is hurting



its biggest private corporations.

The decision marks another milestone in Tencent's evolution from a sprawling internet empire with investments across much of China's tech sphere to a more focused, costconscious gaming and social media operator. Its exit from JD and now much of Meituan comes after Xi Jinping imposed a series of withering curbs on the industry in 2021, including restrictions on play time and content. Tencent executives had previously denied it intended to sell its slice of Meituan, China's leader in food delivery. The stock to be paid out, valued at about HK\$155 billion (R345 billion), marks about 91% of Tencent's Class

B stake. Apart from JD and Meituan, Tencent also owns part of Kuaishou Technology, Didi Global Inc. and Bilibili Inc. And this year it sold about US\$3 billion worth of shares in Southeast Asia's biggest internet company,

"Tencent giving away Meituan shares looks like a move to become regulatory compliant," said Shawn Yang, an analyst with Blue Lotus Capital Advisors who has a buy rating on Tencent. "They won't be in the same camp anymore but will be normal business partners going forward," which reduces Tencent's influence over the online commerce industry.

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2413B 2412B 2414B 24 2416B 2416A 25° S 2512B 2512A 2516B 2516A 2511 26° S 2612A N 2613 261 2612B TGS PROPOSED 3D SEISMIC **SURVEY AREA** 2714A **OF INTEREST** NAMIBIA 2712B 2712A 2714B 2812B 2812A 2813B SOUTH Hydrophones Streamers Airgun Sound Source Buoy

Sound

Reflected

resources generated by the

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Register By Sending an Email / SMS with your Names, Organisation, Contact Details and Declaration / Disclosure of Interest to: Email: frontdesk@rbs.com.na and Mobile: +264 812772546 Attention: Dr Sindila Mwiya (PhD, PG Cert, MPhil, BEng (Hons), Pr Eng), EAP/Technical Permitting Advisor / International Resources Consultant

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