



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MISSION STATEMENT AND MANDATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM



- POLICY DOCUMENT -

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM
PRIVATE BAG 13316
WINDHOEK, NAMIBIA

MAY 1994



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

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27th May 1994

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To: All Heads of Directorates, Divisions, Sections & Outstations

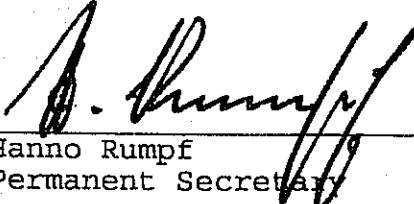
**POLICY DOCUMENT: MISSION STATEMENT AND MANDATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM**

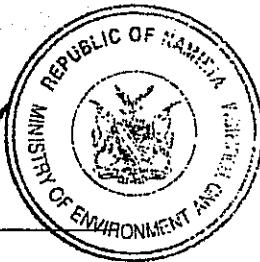
This document contains the approved Mission Statement and Mandate of the Ministry of Environment and Tourism.

The document has its origins in the workshops organised by the Minister of Environment and Tourism, Hon Niko Bessinger, in 1990 and the subsequent workshops in 1991. Thereafter, the document was widely circulated to people both within and outside this Ministry for comments and review. Finally, the document was recommended for acceptance by the Planning Committee of this Ministry.

Additional copies are available from the Directorate of Environmental Affairs.

The previous circular dealt with Public Service Employees' Medical Aid Scheme.


Hanno Rumpf
Permanent Secretary

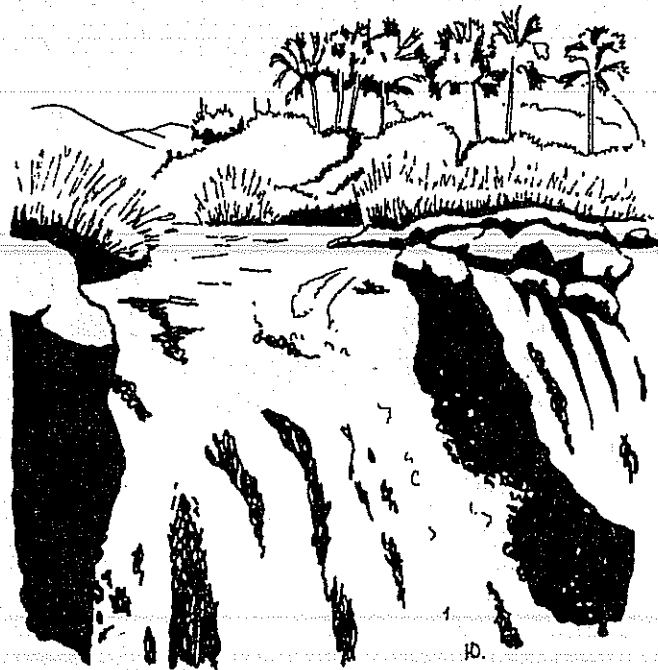


All official correspondence must be addressed to the Permanent Secretary

MISSION STATEMENT

The main objectives listed in the World Conservation Strategy (WCS *) have been accepted and incorporated into the Constitution of the Republic of Namibia, articles 95 (l) and 91 (c). This universally accepted strategy links conservation with development, and demonstrates conservation as the wise management and use of the biosphere so that it may yield the greatest benefits to people today, while sustaining its potential for future generations. The mission statement which has been accepted and adopted by the Ministry of Environment and Tourism is as follows:

To maintain and rehabilitate essential ecological processes and life-support systems, to conserve biological diversity and to ensure that the utilisation of natural renewable resources is sustainable for the benefit of all Namibians, both present and future, as well as for the international community.



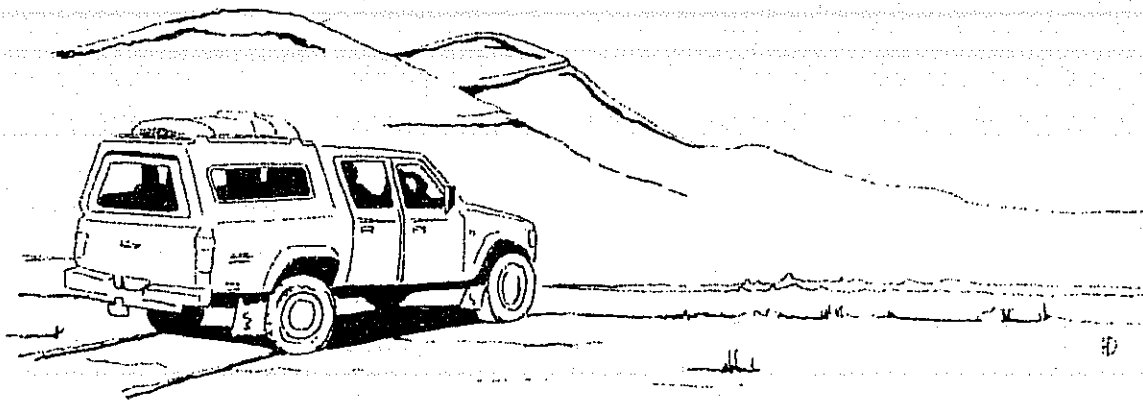
(WCS * The World Conservation Strategy was drawn up by the IUCN, FAO, UNEP, WWF and UNESCO and was adopted by African Ministers of the Environment in Cairo in 1985, as well as by many finance and economic institutions, e.g. World Bank.)

MANDATE

To achieve the above mission, the Ministry needs a clearly defined mandate, which should be translated into a set of policies containing guiding principles. These policies should, in turn, be implemented by means of carefully constructed environmental plans. In May 1991 the necessary mandate was given to the Ministry of Environment and Tourism when the Namibian Cabinet decreed that this Ministry should have responsibility of the Namibian environment.

The mandate necessary for this Ministry to assume the above environmental responsibility and to execute its tasks adequately include the following objectives:

- to conserve the natural environment in Namibia
- to protect biological diversity and life support systems, in partnership with other ministries, organisations and individuals
- to expand, develop, manage and control the country's conservation areas
- to manage and co-ordinate natural resources and to encourage the development of appropriate wildlife- and forestry-based industries
- to foster the sustainable use of all living resources, in partnership with other ministries, organisations and individuals
- to conserve wilderness, and to protect the character and beauty of Namibia
- to initiate and/or participate in all land-use planning with regard to natural resources and the preparation, implementation and management of community-based conservation and development programmes
- to initiate and/or participate in the development of the natural resource-base and methods of utilisation so that people obtain the maximum sustainable benefits
- to apply appropriate environmental, social and economic assessment procedures to development proposals, plans and projects



- to develop, co-ordinate and promote tourism on a sustainable basis, both within proclaimed conservation areas and in the country as a whole, in partnership with other organisations
- to control standards on environmental pollution
- to conduct and promote environmental education, extension and awareness programmes, in partnership with other ministries and organisations
- to conduct and promote research, monitoring and evaluations, and the co-ordination of these activities, in support of the above objectives, as well as the communication of results at local, national and international levels
- to develop, apply and evaluate environmental policies, plans and legislation so as to allow this Ministry to achieve the above objectives
- to create and maintain an environment where every employee is able to reach his or her maximum potential in a climate favouring innovation and excellence.

