

# NAMIBIANS CONTINUE TO MAKE UP OVER 90% OF ARRESTED WILDLIFE CRIME SUSPECTS – 2020 REPORT

Posted by Intern | Apr 12, 2021 | Environment



Namibians continue to make up over 90% of arrested wildlife crime suspects in the country, according to the Combatting Wildlife Crime in Namibia Annual Report 2020 released last week.

According to the report, although wildlife crime is ultimately driven by demand in consumer countries, locals seem to be the bulk of the arrests.

The report states that arrests during 2020 included a number of high-level perpetrators, with significant international connections.

“The breadth of arrests in cases related to rhinos, ranging from poachers to abettors to local dealers and finally international kingpins, have had a significant knock-on effect. Arrests also continue to be made in older cases registered prior to 2020,” the report stated, adding that during 2020, 36 suspects were arrested in line with older cases.

According to the report, suspects from neighbouring countries made up all other nationalities recorded in 2020 and contrary to widespread beliefs, Asians did not feature in the ratio of nationalities recorded in 2020.

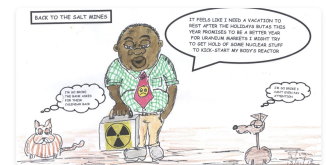
“This highlights the need for broader interventions to reduce poverty and strengthen social rejection of crime,” the report said.

Meanwhile, the report noted that the improved law enforcement and more effective disruption of criminal networks saw the decline



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in the number of rhinos poached in Namibia, with a figure of 31, as compared to 52 in 2019.

On the other hand, significantly more rhino horns were seized during 2020 than during 2019, the Combatting Wildlife Crime in Namibia Annual Report 2020 states.



## MEDIA RELEASE



### NAMPPOWER DEBT COLLECTION PLAN

#### SUSPENSION OF ELECTRICITY SUPPLY TO CUSTOMERS DUE TO LONG OVERDUE ACCOUNTS

NamPower's customers owe the utility close to a billion Namibian Dollar, to date. The situation has become a great concern to NamPower, as it is affecting the sustainability of the business. NamPower has been and continues to engage these customers but very few are making an effort to pay their outstanding accounts, while others have not been forthcoming, resulting in the debtors' accounts growing at an alarming rate.

As a result, NamPower will be implementing a Debt Collection Plan, through the suspension of electricity to defaulting customers as of 12 April 2021. As part of this plan, consultations were held with all defaulting customers to reach an agreement. Demand letters were sent to the defaulting customers requesting them to come up with firm commitments to bring their accounts up to date or settle their arrears by 31 March 2021.

Following a statement on the Debt Collection Plan placed in the media recently, some customers have since settled their accounts. NamPower would like to extend its gratitude to those customers who honoured their commitments by settling their outstanding accounts, while we are encouraging those still in arrears to do the same.

The following defaulting customers (at the time of placement of this media release) will be affected by the Debt Collection Plan if they have not settled their accounts. This list may change from time to time, should customers who have payment arrangements in place not honour their obligations.

**NB! The list below reflects the current status quo of customers in arrears as of date of publishing.**

VILLAGES	MUNICIPALITIES	MINISTRIES
<b>Account Name</b> • Village Council Maltahöhe • Village Council Bethanie • Gibeon Village Council • Koks Village Council • Tses Village Council • Village Council Leonardville • Village Council Kalkrand • Benseba Village Council • Stampriet Village Council • Village Council Witvlei	<b>Account Name</b> • Municipality Rehoboth • Okahandja Municipality (Cenored-Okahandja JV) • Municipality Karasburg • Municipality Grootbuis • Aranos Town Council	<b>Account Name</b> • Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform • Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Services
<b>PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SOE)</b> <b>Account Name</b> • Agribusder - Orange River Irrigation Project • NDC TVANIDA		

The electricity supply of these customers will be disconnected as per the Table below. According to the plan, power supply will be suspended for a minimum of four (4) hours weekly. The number of hours or period of suspension will be increased in instances where no full payment is forthcoming.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Per week
Stage 1	4 11:00 – 15:00							Stage 1: Electricity Suspension for 4 hours If no full payment is received, move to Stage 2
Stage 2	4	4 11:00 – 15:00						Stage 2: Electricity Suspension for 8 hours If no full payment is received, move to Stage 3
Stage 3	4	4	4 11:00 – 15:00					Stage 3: Electricity Suspension for 12 hours If no full payment is received, move to Stage 4
Stage 4	4	4	4	4 11:00 – 15:00				Stage 4: Electricity Suspension for 16 hours If no full payment is received, move to Stage 5
Stage 5	4	4	4	4	4 11:00 – 15:00			Stage 5: Electricity Suspension for 20 hours If no full payment is received, move to Stage 6
Stage 6	4	4	4	4	4	4		Stage 6: Electricity Suspension for 24 hours If no full payment is received, move to Stage 7
Stage 7	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	Stage 7: Electricity Suspension for 28 hours If no full payment is received, move to Stage 8
Stage 8	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	Stage 8: Electricity Suspension for 32 hours 2 additional hours, 6 hours per day for Stage 8. If no full payment is received, move to Stage 9
Stage 9	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	Stage 9: Electricity Suspension for 36 hours 2 additional hours, 8 hours per day for Stage 9

**Note:** Stage 1 starts on a Monday as depicted above, followed by Stage 2 the following week, if no full payment is received during that week. Moving to the next stage will only be halted once full payment is received.

NamPower acknowledges the importance of electricity in the country's socio-economic development. Therefore, it is important that customers honour their commitment by paying their electricity accounts timeously to enable NamPower to continue delivering on its mandate of ensuring security of supply to the nation.

NamPower will keep the public informed about developments concerning the Debt Collection Plan as implementation progresses. The public affected by this exercise are encouraged to contact their respective electricity service provider for further information.

We apologise to our stakeholders for any inconvenience that the implementation of the Debt Collection Plan may cause.

ISSUED BY THE OFFICE OF THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

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