



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, INNOVATION, YOUTH, SPORTS, ARTS AND CULTURE

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19 August 2025

Mr. Sikongo Haihambo
Executive Director
Ministry of Environment, Forestry & Tourism
Private Bag 13306
Windhoek, Namibia

Attention: Mr. Timo Mufeti
Environmental Commissioner

SUBJECT: CONSENT FOR DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (ESIA), AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (EMP) FOR THE EPEMBE SECONDARY SCHOOL AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT PROJECT (REF NO: #250621005958)

The Ministry of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports, Arts and Culture hereby grants its full consent and authorization for the development of the proposed Secondary School and integrated Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) at Epembe, Ohangwena Region, Namibia. The project will be situated on a 25-hectare communal land parcel at coordinates 17°48'15"S, 16°28'30"E.

This consent covers the design, construction, and operation of the project, as well as the undertaking of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and the preparation of the Environmental Management Plan (EMP), to ensure full compliance with applicable environmental and social standards

The project, identified as a priority initiative under Namibia's National Development Plan 6 (2025–2030) and Vision 2030, is designed to provide modern educational infrastructure for 600 learners, including hostels and teachers' housing, along with a Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) with a capacity of 60–80 m³/day to meet effluent discharge standards (BOD).

The Ministry confirms that the project has been planned and developed in close collaboration with the relevant authorities, including the Ohangwena Regional Council, responsible for communal land administration, and the Traditional Authorities, who have provided guidance on cultural and land rights matters to ensure community integration and acceptance.

All official correspondence must be addressed to the Executive Director

To comply with the provisions of the Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) and its Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (2012), the Ministry, through Artee Project Engineers, has appointed Erongo Consulting Group (Pty) Ltd as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and prepare the Environmental Management Plan (EMP).

Erongo Consulting Group has completed comprehensive baseline studies, stakeholder consultations (concluded on 5 June 2025), and impact assessments, as documented in the ESIA Report (Ref No: #250621005958). The project scope includes a Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) incorporating screening, sedimentation, activated sludge treatment, and UV disinfection; a 200-m HDPE pipeline; and a 20-kW solar-diesel hybrid power system. Mitigation measures have been incorporated to safeguard the oshana ecosystem located 300–400 m southeast of the site and to address socio-economic concerns raised by approximately 10 households within a 500-m radius.

This letter is submitted in support of the review process by the Directorate of Environmental Affairs for the issuance of an Environmental Clearance Certificate. It affirms the Ministry's commitment to the successful implementation of the project, including adherence to the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and the Environmental Management Plan (EMP). The Ministry further undertakes to ensure ongoing compliance with applicable national legislation and international best practices, including the International Finance Corporation (IFC) Performance Standards (2012) and the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) Guidelines (2015), to promote sustainable and responsible development outcomes.

For further information or clarification, kindly contact:

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Sincerely,


Mbumba Erastus Haitengela
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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