



## Press Release

### For Immediate Release

## NSI Concludes Stakeholder Consultations on the Review of Standards Regulations

**Windhoek, Namibia – 02 March 2026** -The Namibian Standards Institution (NSI) has successfully concluded stakeholder consultations on the Review and Formulation of the Standards Regulations, held in the Khomas Region on 24 February 2026 and the Erongo Region on 27 February 2026. The consultations formed part of a national process to strengthen Namibia's standards regulatory framework and ensure it remains responsive to economic developments, technological advancement, and international good regulatory practices.

The engagements brought together government officials, industry representatives, technical experts, and key stakeholders to deliberate on proposed regulatory provisions and contribute to shaping a modern, effective, and inclusive standards system for Namibia.

### Background and Purpose

The existing Standards Regulations were promulgated in 2013 following the commencement of the Standards Act, 2005. Since then, Namibia's economic and regulatory environment has evolved significantly, including increased trade integration, growing industrial activity, and heightened expectations for effective regulation and market oversight. These developments necessitated a comprehensive review of the regulatory framework to ensure that Namibia's technical regulation systems remain internationally credible and aligned with best practice.

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#### Namibian Standards Council (NSC) members

Mr. Paul Natangwe Kalenga, Chairperson | Ms. Matilda Kahimbi Jankie-Shakwa, Vice Chairperson  
Mr. Vincent Nowaseb, Member | Mr. Thaddeus Eli-Megameno Shigwedha, Member | Mr. Lloyd Londt, Member | Dr. Monica Nehemia, Member  
Dr. Eino Mvula, CEO (Member, Ex-Officio) | Ms. Tabitha Mbome, Legal Advisor and Company Secretary

The review also supports the implementation of Namibia's Revised National Quality Policy (NQP) (2020–2025), which prioritises strengthening the National Quality Infrastructure (NQI) and ensuring that the quality, safety, and competitiveness of domestic products and services to boost exports and diversify the economy, with key focus areas including aligning with international standards.

### **Strengthening the National Quality Infrastructure**

A central objective of the review is to reinforce Namibia's National Quality Infrastructure (NQI), which encompasses standardisation, testing, inspection, certification, and compliance systems. These elements are essential for ensuring that goods meet established quality and safety requirements, thereby protecting consumers, supporting industry competitiveness, facilitating trade, and safeguarding the environment.

The implementation of improved regulatory instruments is therefore critical to enabling NSI to effectively deliver standardisation and conformity assessment services that support public health, safety, environmental protection, and economic development.

### **Key Areas Under Review**

During the consultations, stakeholders engaged on proposed regulatory improvements intended to modernise and clarify the standards framework. These include:

- Detailed procedures for developing Namibian Standards, including those based on international standards.
- Clearer provisions governing the declaration and administration of compulsory standards.
- Mechanisms for expedited development of standards in emergency situations where immediate action is required to protect public health, safety, the environment, or national security.

These proposed measures are designed to ensure that Namibia's regulatory framework remains practical, responsive, and capable of addressing emerging risks and market demands.

### **Stakeholder Input**

Participants, both physical and virtual, actively contributed technical inputs and implementation considerations to ensure that the revised regulations are practical and effective. Issues raised included the availability of accredited testing services, representation and expertise within standards development structures, institutional capacity requirements, and the broader understanding of standards and their role in health, environmental protection, and economic development.

NSI welcomed these contributions and reaffirmed its commitment to implementing regulations that are practical, inclusive, and responsive to stakeholder needs. The institution emphasised that stakeholder feedback is critical to refining the draft regulations, strengthening institutional capacity, enhancing representation and technical expertise within standards development structures, and ensuring that the regulatory framework effectively supports health, environmental protection, and economic development.

### **CEO Emphasises Importance of Consultation**

Addressing participants, the NSI Chief Executive Officer **Dr. Eino Mvula** highlighted the national importance of the process, stating:

*“We gather not only to share insights and discuss future directions for administering the Standards Act, but also to shape the future of Namibia’s national quality infrastructure as a cornerstone for socio-economic development and competitiveness. The success of this process depends on active stakeholder participation and our collective commitment to good regulatory practice.”*

He further emphasised that the process is guided by inclusivity and transparency, noting that stakeholder participation is critical in developing effective legal and operational frameworks for standards and regulatory systems.

### **Way Forward**

Although the physical consultation has concluded, stakeholders may continue to submit written inputs up to and including 6 March 2026. Inputs from all participants will be consolidated and incorporated into the ongoing review process. The finalised regulations and rules will strengthen NSI's ability to administer compulsory standards, and enhance market surveillance in accordance with its statutory mandate.

NSI extends its sincere appreciation to all stakeholders who participated and contributed valuable expertise. Their engagement reflects a shared national commitment to building a responsive, credible, and internationally aligned standards regulatory system that supports Namibia's long-term development goals.

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