

SAFE ROADS TO PROSPERITY

SPEECH NOTES

**OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY OF TRUNK ROAD 14/2, BETWEEN
OKAMATAPATI AND GROOTFONTEIN (PHASE 2) ON
FRIDAY, 27 APRIL 2018 AT GROOTFONTEIN, OTJOZONDJPA REGION**

BACKGROUND

- The upgrading to bitumen standards of Trunk Road (TR) 14/2 from Otjinene to Grootfontien was identified in the Feasibility Study for the Trans-Kalahari Extension in 2006. TR 14/2 was a logical extension of the Trans-Kalahari Highway and was intended to link the northern regions of Namibia and Angola to Botswana and South Africa. The route also links Mozambique, South Africa and Botswana with Angola through Namibia and significantly shortens the distance travelled through Namibia. This link was designated as Route 301 of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Regional Trunk Road Network and is therefore of International, National and Regional importance.
- This project is a continuation of the bitumen road between Gobabis, Otjinene and Okamatapati.

- This project (TR 14/2) consisted of the upgrading to bitumen standard of the existing gravel road, in order to provide an entire paved (tarred) road link from Otjinene to Grootfontein. The road was constructed in 2 phases, phase 1 covered the road from Otjinene-Okamatapati (131 kilometres) and phase 2 is from Okamatapati to Grootfontein (100 kilometres). The length of the entire project is 231 kilometres in total.
- The official ground breaking was done by the then Right Honorable Prime Minister Dr. Hage Geingob on ...In Okondjaty. opening ceremony of phase 1 was officiated by His Excellency Dr Hage Geingob, President of the Republic of Namibia on 16 March 2017 at Okondjatu in the Otjozondjupa Region
- The construction of phase 2 (from Grootfontein to Okamatapati) commenced in October 2014 and was completed in March 2018. The road stretches from Okamatapati in the south for 100 kilometres towards Grootfontein to the north, passing the settlements of Coblenz and Ongongoro in close proximity. These settlements have government facilities such as schools and clinics. Therefore they will be linked to the main road and the Contractor is busy with the construction of these access roads.
- The Contractor on this project was China Henan International Cooperation Limited and the Consultant was WML Element and Bicon Joint Venture. The overall management of the project was done by the Roads Authority.

FUNDING AND COSTS OF THE PROJECT

- The total project cost for phase 2 is approximately N\$ 684 million. The construction of the entire project (phase 1 and 2) amounted to approximately N\$1.2 billion. This project was fully funded by the Government of the Republic of Namibia.

EMPLOYMENT OF NAMIBIANS ON THE PROJECT



- This project has stimulated small and medium businesses along the route as a significant amount of services were required by the Contractor throughout the construction period.
- 451 Namibians were employed on a contract basis. A total amount of N\$ 42 401 958 was spend on the labour bill.
- In addition, a total of 22 Namibian Small Scale Contractors (NSSC's) which include SME's and local suppliers benefited from the project and were involved in various activities such as earthworks, concrete works, bush clearing and ancillary or other finishing works. A total amount of N\$ 62 366 300 was spend on NSSC's which equates to 15.68% of the works value.

BENEFITS OF THE PROJECT

- The project will uplift the trade and industry in the Omaheke and Otjozondjupa Regions and all towns along the route will benefit directly.
- This route will also greatly enhance safety, comfort and cost of travel in the Omaheke region as it services several towns/settlements, namely Otjinene, Okondjatu, and Okamatapati
- With the completion of phase two from Okamatapati to Grootfontein, this road will serve as the shortest route linking the northern part of Namibia to Gaborone in Botswana and Gauteng in South Africa.

PROGRESS ON OTHER ONGOING CAPITAL ROAD PROJECTS

- **Windhoek – Okahandja Dual Carriage Ways, Section 4a**

The project starts at Dobra River Bridge and ends at Omakunde River Bridge before the Osona Village. The project is 27.5 kilometres long. Progress currently stands at 67% to completion and the envisaged completion date July 2019.



The construction of Section 4b (21km) from Osona Military Base and Otjiwarongo Junction (it will go behind Okahandja on the southern side as it will be a bypass) will commence as soon as funding is secured.

- **Windhoek – HKIA, Phase 1**

This project extends from Sam Nujoma drive through Kleine Kuppe, Auasblick to the circle at Rehoboth road and then continues on to Main Road 49 leading to the Kupferberg landfill. The progress has reached 33% and it is expected to be completed in December 2019.

The construction of Phase 2a from Sam Nujoma Interchange to Dordabis Interchange will commence soon. Phase 2a will be funded by a loan from the African Development Bank and phase 2b will be funded via a grant from the Government of the People's Republic of China.

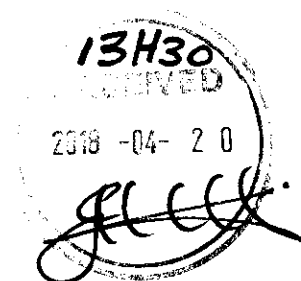
- **Swakopmund – Walvis Bay**

The road project consists of the Main Road (MR) 44, MR 36 and Trunk Road 2/1 between Walvis Bay and Swakopmund. Phase 1 consists of the upgrading to freeway standard of MR 44 (behind the dunes) from TR 2/2 to Farm 58 (8km before intersection of MR44 & MR36). This project is ongoing, and to date, 35% of the permanent works have been completed. The envisaged completion date is December 2019.

Phase 2 will start at Farm 58 (8 km before the intersection of MR44 & MR36) to Walvis Bay Traffic Cycle (along MR36) and will also include the rehabilitation of TR 2/1 (Coastal road). The Government of the Republic of Namibia is working hard to obtain funding for Phase 2 of this project.

- **Swakopmund-Hentiesbay-Uis-Khorixas-Kamanjab**

The construction of Phase 1 (Swakopmund to Hentiesbay) has commenced and it is progressing well. The envisaged completion date for this phase is December 2019.



The detailed design for Phase 2 (Hentiesbay-Uis) is completed and the RA is currently sourcing for funding to commence construction.

OTHER CRITICAL PLANNED PROJECTS

- **Karibib-Usakos-Arandis (2+1 road upgrade)**

The design for phase 1 (Karibib-Omaruru-Usakos is done). Construction will commence once funds are secured.

- **Oshakati- Ondangwa- Omuthiya (upgrade to a dual carriageway)**

The design for section 1 (Omuthiya-Onethindi) is done and construction will commence once funds are secured.

End/...

