

SPORT EDITOR

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## NAMIBIA FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

**MEMBER OF FIFA - CAF - COSAFA** 

P.O. Box 1345 Windhoek, Namibia Richard Kamuhuka Street Football House Katutura

> Tel: +264 61 265 691 Fax: +264 61 265 693

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

NFA Reaffirms Financial Integrity Amid Media Allegations

The Namibia Football Association expresses serious concern about the recent New Era article by journalist Ms. Limba Mupetami, titled "NFA Audit Opens Pandora's Box." While public scrutiny plays an essential role in strengthening institutions, the NFA wishes to correct misrepresentations to amplify its commitment towards financial integrity and transparency.

The NFA's clean audit and governance reforms reflect a stable institution committed to ethical leadership. Our sponsors and partners can remain confident in the NFA's transparency, regulatory compliance, and long-term value as a responsible Football Federation sponsors can comfortably align their brand to influence social impact.

The financial statements for the fiscal year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 were subjected to a comprehensive external audit by Saunderson & Co Chartered Accountants. The auditors issued an unqualified opinion, confirming that the financial statements present a fair and accurate reflection of the NFA's financial position in accordance with the Namibia General Accepted Accounting Practice [NAC 001] and the Namibia Sports Act [2003].

The audit was conducted in full compliance with International Standards on Auditing [ISA] and the International Ethics Standards for Accountants. An emphasis of matter was noted regarding the historical non-remittance of PAYE deductions [N\$1,469,820] to the Namibia Revenue Agency [NamRA]. The NFA engaged NamRA and initiated a formal resolution to appropriately allocate the amount paid over to the Revenue Agency, hence, this matter did not warrant a modification to the audit opinion. Furthermore, the NFA is subjected to the central review audit every year by FIFA through audit firm Ernst & Young. Recommendations are used in strengthening the overall governance processes of the Namibia Football Association.

The NFA expresses disappointment with the negative narrative the New Era portrayed of its audit report, to intentionally disregard the clean audit opinion and to misrepresent NFA's current governance framework. <u>It is essential to note:</u>

- Many of the concerns highlighted, such as the PAYE matter and the labour case of Mr. Franco Cosmos are legacy issues dating back to the Normalisation Committee preceding the elections of the Executive Council.
- The article's selective citation of an unnamed auditor without context contradicts journalistic standards and undermines established findings by both Saunderson & Co and FIFA auditors.
- The dual role assumed by Ms. Mupetami writing as senior journalist while commenting in a personal capacity raises questions around professional objectivity, journalistic ethics, editorial independence and potential conflicts of interest.
- The NFA rejects any insinuation of bias or political manipulation in its mandate to charge its administrative and operational projects with distinction.

The NFA's financial statements were formally approved at the 33<sup>rd</sup> Ordinary Congress held on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2024 and published on its website, submitted to the Namibia Sports Commission and forwarded to the Ministry of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports, Arts and Culture, FIFA, CAF and COSAFA. The NFA remains committed to operational transparency, governance compliance, and continuous improvement and will continue to engage its sponsors and partners with transparency and professionalism.

## **ISSUED BY THE NAMIBIA FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION**

**CONTACT: MR. MINO GARISEB** 

Director: Finance, Procurement & HR

**MOBILE:** +264-811-510-501 **EMAIL:** mgariseb@nfa.org.na