



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

Inquiries: Isack Hamata

Email: ihamata@nfa.org.na

SPORT EDITOR

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MEDIA RELEASE

NFA Responds to Debmarine Namibia

The Namibia Football Association wishes to inform its members, its clubs, its players, its sponsors, key stakeholders, and the public that it was caught by surprise by the regrettable statement Mr. Willy Mertens, Chief Executive Officer of Debmarine Namibia issued preceding the NFA (Debmarine Premiership) Award Ceremony following the African Stars SC vs Young African FC final league fixture at the Independence Stadium on Saturday, 14th June 2025, Cassius Moetie, NFA's Interim General Secretary said in a statement.

"While we, at NFA values our partnership with Debmarine Namibia, certain assertions made by Mr. Mertens misrepresents the character and stature of the Association. Left unaddressed, these inaccuracies risk unjustly tarnishing the NFA's reputation and the upward trajectory of Namibia football," Moetie stated.

The Interim General Secretary said that NFA, as a statutory body, is operating under clearly defined principles and objectives, including the mandate to safeguard the interests of its members, particularly the Namibia Premier Football League and its clubs. The sponsorship funds from Debmarine Namibia have always been allocated strictly in accordance with the agreed terms, ensuring that the intended beneficiaries, players, coaches, and officials receive their due support, Moetie mentioned.

"Our strategic direction is guided by internal governance processes. While the NFA President already addressed this matter, the Association reiterates its commitment to pursuing its objectives without external pressure or undue interference," he stated.

The NFA categorically refutes the claim that its leadership was absent from the event. In the unavoidable absence of the NFA President and Vice President, NFA was represented by Executive Council Members Mr. Michael Situde and

Mr. Robert Shimooshili [President], Mr. Jakobus Markus [Vice President],
Executive Councillors: Mr. Laurence Kandundu, Mr. Joseph Hailombe, Ms. Precious Chaka,
Mr. Rafael Kamuyoyo, Mr. Egidius Nambara, Mr. Michael Situde
Mr. Cassius Moetie [Interim General Secretary]

Mr. Laurence Kandundu, with myself, as the Interim General Secretary. It is particularly disconcerting that such statements were made at the NFA Awards ceremony at which event Debmarine Namibia participated as a NFA sponsor.

“We find the suggestion that NFA disrespected Debmarine Namibia both surprising and regrettable. Our sponsorship agreement creates contractual framework for protocols of internal engagement, at which platforms Debmarine Namibia could express its views to find amicable outcomes, but certain not in public. This was below the belt,” the Interim General Secretary said.

Moetie rejects the allegation that the NFA leadership prioritized personal objectives over the welfare of clubs, players, and referees. “These claims are defamation of character of the NFA leadership that have a direct impact on the NFA brand with its football products we sell to potential sponsors, the Interim General Secretary stressed.

The NFA, and its Executive Council, management and staff, remains committed to transparency, constructive dialogue, to continue advancing and developing football amongst young boys and girls, including Futsal across all fourteen [14] regions in Namibia, Cassius Moetie, Interim General Secretary of the Namibia Football Association concluded.

ISSUED BY THE NAMIBIA FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

CONTACT: MR. ISACK HAMATA

Director: Commercial, Sales and IT

MOBILE: +264-815-544-492

EMAIL: ihamata@nfa.org.na