



DRAFT MINUTES

20th Executive Committee Meeting

Tuesday 22 May 2023 at 16h00

NCE Boardroom, and virtually via Zoom

Present: Charles Loots – Chairperson (CL), Chris Brown (CB), Mendes Vinte (MV), Malan Lindeque (ML), Itaveleni Mupewa (IM)

Apologies: Stephan Bezuidenhout (SB), Morgan Hauptfleisch (MH)

Agenda item	Discussion	Decision	Action Points
1. Welcome by Chairman	The chairperson welcomed all present. New Committee Members were introduced. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mendes Vinte • Itaveleni Mupewa 		
2. Attendance and apologies	Stephan Bezuidenhout Morgan Hauptfleisch	Quorum present.	
3. Approval of Agenda	Approved	Agenda adopted with no additions.	
4. Minutes of 19th Meeting: 4.1 Correctness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No corrections. 	Minutes approved with no corrections.	

<p>4.2 Matters arising</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NCE Alumni Event 	<p>The event is scheduled for 25 August 2023. Students that were funded from 2017 to 2023 to attend.</p>	
<p>5. Eight Programme Areas</p>	<p>1. Membership support Membership currently stands at 74.</p> <p>2. National Facilitation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ReconAfrica Kavango drilling • Uranium in Kalahari basin • Wildlife Lead (Pb) Poisoning Working Group 	<p>Four Full Members approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bwabwata Living Museum • Canyon Nature Trust • Namibia Archaeological Trust • Twin Hills Trust <p>Ongoing investigation with the office of the Ombudsman, and legal proceedings at the High Court, represented by the LAC, on behalf of the community.</p> <p>CB has written to the office of the Environmental Commissioner to ensure that ReconAfrica does not leave the country without restoring the environment they damaged.</p> <p>This is currently very problematic. This has now moved from the North to the South-East. High levels of radio-active uranium in the ground water, especially in the Kalahari. Exploration licenses were withdrawn. NCE gave support to the Stampriet Aquifer Uranium Mining Association in the form of funding to cover legal costs.</p> <p>The toxicity of lead was emphasized. All analysis to be done in Japan in two laboratories. Namibia is recorded to have one of the highest lead levels in the world. The UNAM Medical School is now sampling children, testing lead levels in their bodies.</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carnivore Working Group. • Invasive Alien Species Working Group • “Green” hydrogen • Carnivore Red Data Book, poster, and launch <p>3. Advocacy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Huab Mine • NAMCOB 	<p>Kenneth Uiseb serving as Chairperson, and sub-groups on Red Data Species are being formed.</p> <p>A successful meeting was held at the NUST hotel school. This 2-part session included a talk by Dr Guy Preston on the Working for Water programme in South Africa.</p> <p>The Financial Planning Unit (MOF), and Office of the Prime Minister have expressed their interest.</p> <p>Hyphen is the external advisor. A MOU was signed to include not only the EIA portion but the entire project. No strategic overview exists but rather reflect whether the Sperrgebiet area is in fact the correct area. Other areas to be considered with the exception of Parks. There is an integrated plan through GIZ, to de-proclaimed the Sperrgebiet area.</p> <p>The Carnivore Red Data book completed and launched at the NCE AGM in November 2022 at Arebbusch Travel Lodge. Books are currently being sold at bookstores across Windhoek.</p> <p>Awaiting findings from Hartmut.</p> <p>The Constitution is now complete and signed off. They are currently conducting interviews for the director position based in Luderitz. They will further employ an admin and Seabird Rangers.</p> <p>NAMDEB has allocated four houses that will be constructed into centres. A website, logo, and brochures produced. Five million EUR raised. NNF to run the finances.</p>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socioeconomic update <p>4. Young Namibian Training and Mentorship - Bursaries 2023</p> <p>5. Environmental Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation Magazine • Plant atlas and information systems 	<p>The average person will need an income of about N\$ 18 000 per month to qualify for a home loan or buy a formal house. 80% of earners would not qualify. In collaboration with DWN and local authorities, affordable, minimally services, land is available at N\$ 10 000 per plot. The funds generated through these sales are used to pay for service providers at 70% of their commercial rates and the 30% is set off as part of CSI.</p> <p>FNB provides unsecured loans of up to N\$ 50 000 for further development of the plots. This programme is running in 13 towns, and over 4000 plots have been developed.</p> <p>Sanitation is going well, and DWN is working closely with the WHK Municipality. There are currently 9 towns involved in the community-led total sanitation programme. The aim is to make open areas defecation free, and this has now been implemented in 13 areas, over 5200 toilets have been constructed, affecting 700 families, and 22 000 people.</p> <p>Current bursary holders at 42. An Alumni event to be held in August.</p> <p>Potential articles are currently being reviewed.</p> <p>The App can be downloaded from the Google Play Store and in the case of Apple devices, through the EIS website.</p>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powerline survey • Bush Biomass Information System. 	<p>Noted.</p> <p>The NCE will be taking over the Bush Biomass IS.</p>	
6. Finances			
6.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NCE Draft Financial report as at 30 June 2023. 	Accepted.	
6.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NCE Projects Draft Financial report as at 30 June 2023. 	Accepted.	
6.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Budget for the 2023/24 financial year. 	Accepted.	
8. Any other business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NamNet • Landscape Association • MTC Partnership • EIA Tracker App 	<p>To be registered as a Voluntary Association. The drafting of the Constitution and other processes are underway with umbrella bodies as members.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>MTC assistance with towers in high impact areas where communication is weak but vital.</p> <p>All the EIA's can now be tracked using an App, around the country. This is funded by NCE and driven by NEWS, with the assistance of an intern.</p>	<p>CB to follow up.</p> <p>CB to contact Steve Galloway.</p>
9. Next Meeting	TBC		

C Loots
Chairperson

C Brown
Chief Executive Officer