



NAMIBIA TRAINING AUTHORITY

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MEDIA STATEMENT

Ester Anna Nghipondoka – Chief Executive Officer (Acting)

THE PUBLICATION OF THE FINAL FRAMEWORK ON THE VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (VET) LEVY AND THE REQUIREMENT FOR ELIGIBLE EMPLOYERS TO REGISTER AS LEVY-PAYING EMPLOYERS.

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Media:

Good Morning

The Namibia Training Authority has invited you here today to brief you on the significant progress we have made towards the implementation of the Vocational Education and Training (VET) Levy as per VET Act (Act 1 2008).

So far the following has already happened:

1. As per Section 36 of the VET Act of 2008, the Minister of Education has already informed employers of his intention to impose the VET Levy;
2. Employers have already been invited to make representations to the Minister in response to the information on intention to impose the levy and our employers have already done so.

This briefing coincides with the official publication yesterday, **the 27th of January 2014**, in the Government Gazette, of the final notice by the Minister of Education, to impose the Vocational Education and Training Levy on eligible employers as per Section 35 of the VET Act.

Under this notice the Vocational Education and Training Levy is payable by every employer, with an annual payroll of N\$ 1 000 000-00 (one-million) or more.

The following employers are exempt from payment of the VET Levy.

1. The State;
2. Regional councils as defined in the Regional Councils Act of 1992
3. Charitable organisations;
4. Public educational institutions and not for gain; and
5. Faith-based organisations,
Whether or not supported wholly, or partly, by grants from public funds.

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Media:

The notice also requires every employer who must pay the VET Levy to, within 30 days of publication of the notice in the Government Gazette, register as a VET-Levy paying employer with the NTA and to furnish to the NTA, the following information:

1. Name of Company/Employer;
2. Type of Business Entity;
3. Number of Branches/Subsidiaries;
4. Nature of Business – Business Sector/Subsector;
5. Registration Number, Income Tax Number and Social Security Registration Number of Company;
6. Physical Address, Postal Address and Contact Particulars such as Telephone, Fax and E-mail details of the Company;
7. Number and of Employees disaggregated by gender
8. Full Banking Details; and
9. Estimated Annual Payroll for the Current Financial Year.

Employers with a subsidiary establishment must complete a VET Levy registration form in respect of such subsidiary.

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Media:

The closing date for registration is the 27th of February 2014.

At this juncture, I call upon you to partner us in disseminating this important message to eligible employers across our country. It is of utmost importance that they register for this very important national project.

In line with our strategic objective as per our current five-year Strategic Plan, the Namibia Training Authority has set up the necessary infrastructure and systems to support an efficient and convenient online registration process. Eligible employers can register through our official website - www.nta.com.na

However, where online registration may not be possible, registration forms can be collected from the Namibia Training Authority Head Office in Rand Street, Khomasdal, or can be downloaded from our website for completion and submission.

A Customer Care Centre and toll-free number have been set up to assist eligible employers and ensure a smooth registration process. We encourage employers to make contact through the toll-free number, 0800 2078 550, or e-mail, levy@nta.com.na

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Media:

In conclusion, allow me to once again emphasise that the Vocational Education and Training Levy is a step in the right direction for our country.

It is aligned with our expectations under the Fourth National Development Plan (NDP4) and Vision 2030, which highlight the importance of skills and skills development in our quest for sustained economic growth.

It is also aligned with our objectives to reduce income inequality; fight poverty; enhance economic competitiveness; support quality education and growing our manufacturing industry.

I therefore call on all eligible employers to embrace the Vocational Education and Training Levy with a sense of ownership towards establishing a reliable source of financing Technical and Vocational Education and Training in our country.

We are confident that the funds generated through the VET Levy will assist us in the development of national training capacities and significantly boost the financing of our country's training needs.

I thank you.

END.