

Minutes – Annexure 1

MINUTES OF THE CONSULTATION MEETING WITH DIRECTORATE OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AND NATIONAL PARKS (*MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT*) TO INTRODUCE OSHIVVELO AGRICULTURAL PROJECT AND REQUEST FOR LETTER OF CONSENT

1. ORGANIZATION OF MEETING

Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction of the project• Request for a consent letter
Date	25 October 2023
Time	14H30
Venue	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism
Attendees	<ol style="list-style-type: none">i. Mr Bennet Kahuure – Director, WMNPii. Ms Naambo lipinge – Deputy Director, ENPiii. Ms Regina Ambambi – Chairperson, Kekaritz Fishing (Pty) Ltdiv. Mr Matti Haimbili – Board member, Kekaritz Fishing (Pty) Ltdv. Mr Chris V Aukongo – Consultant, Kekaritz Fishing (Pty) Ltd

2. INFORMATION SHARING

The delegation representing Kekaritz Fishing (Pty) Ltd introduced their intent to establish a commercial agricultural project at Oshivello in order to contribute to local food security. In this regard, the Kekaritz delegation explained that the allocated project land was sandwiched between the electrical fence of Etosha National Park, on the west, and the razor wire fence of Operet Aerodrome, on the east. They further explained Kekaritz was consulting WMNP to ensure good neighbourliness, as well as seeking advice, going forward, on how to maintain smooth cooperation between the two respective stakeholder institutions. Lastly, the delegation requested WMNP to consider granting Kekaritz Fishing the Consent Letter that would enable the company to obtain an environmental clearance certificate (*ECC*) from DEA and a harvesting permit from the department of forestry (*DOF*).

In response, WMNP representatives emphasized the fact that the area in question was experiencing a high level of roaming wildlife leaving the national park which, thereby, results in incidents of undesirable human-wildlife conflicts (HWCs). Given the nature of the proposed project, WMNP was convinced that both the smell of agricultural produce and water would attract wildlife – mainly elephants – to the site of the project. In this regard, WMNP directed that Kekaritz Fishing should attend to the following requirements:

- To conduct an environmental assessment/scoping at the project area, and furnish them with a report spelling out the possible impacts of HWCs, as well as proposing sustainable mitigating measures against roaming wildlife;
- To consult with neighbouring stakeholder institutions to learn from their HWC experiences and, where applicable, obtain their consent.

In early November 2023, Kekaritz Fishing conducted the environmental assessment study of the area, including consultations with neighbouring stakeholders, and presented the respective report to WMNP titled ***‘Environmental Assessment Report for Proposed Oshivelo Agricultural Project’*** – complete with proposed mitigating measures against roaming wildlife. Although WMNP did not raise any objections to the report and, indeed, has forwarded the report to DOF for the issuance of a harvesting permit, WMNP has not yet issued the letter of consent to Kekaritz Fishing (PTY) Ltd.

3. REMARKS

These minutes represent a true record of discussions on the above-stated subject matter.

4. SIGNING OF MINUTES

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Dated: / / 2024

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