



NDCN NEWS

APRIL - JUNE 2026

FIRST QUARTER E-NEWSLETTER

FY 2026/2027



ADVANCING DISABILITY RIGHTS • EMPOWERMENT • INCLUSION

Highlights of the First Quarter of the 2026/2027 Financial Year



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QUARTER AT A GLANCE

This edition captures key NDCN achievements during April-June 2026, including policy and legislative work, regional capacity building, employment initiatives, National Disability Week, education support, entrepreneurship, and legal engagement.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Research and Development Department | Legal and Company Secretary Department |
Office of the Chief Executive Officer

PHOTOGRAPHY

Ms. Lovisa Kathindi

DESIGN & LAYOUT

Ms. Lovisa Kathindi

EDITOR

Mrs. Angelique Philander



HIGH-LEVEL STATEMENTS

HIGH-LEVEL STATEMENTS

Our strategic direction is anchored in the NDCN Integrated Strategic Business Plan and expressed through our Mission, Vision and Core Values.

MISSION

To create a conducive environment that promotes the general welfare of persons with disabilities in all spheres in Namibia.

VISION

To achieve a barrier-free society for all persons with disabilities by 2032.

MANDATE

To promote the general welfare of persons with disabilities; monitor implementation of disability policy; advise on legislation and equal opportunities; consult persons with disabilities and their organisations; and take necessary steps to improve their situation in Namibia.

CORE VALUES

Integrity • Accountability • Results-oriented
• Inclusivity

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S NOTE



It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the first edition of the National Disability Council of Namibia's quarterly e-newsletter for the 2026/2027 financial year. This publication provides a platform to share our progress, strengthen stakeholder engagement, and highlight the collective work being undertaken to advance the rights, inclusion, and empowerment of persons with disabilities across Namibia.

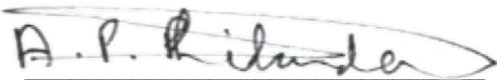
The first quarter reflects encouraging progress in several strategic areas. Key milestones include continued work to strengthen Namibia's disability legislative and policy framework, advancement of regional cooperation with the Zambian Agency for Persons with Disabilities, stakeholder training on disability-disaggregated data and the Revised National Policy on Disability, initiatives to improve

employment opportunities, and the successful hosting of National Disability Week 2026 in Lüderitz.

We have also continued to invest in education, entrepreneurship and community engagement. These initiatives demonstrate that meaningful inclusion requires coordinated action across Government, organisations of persons with disabilities, development partners, the private sector and communities.

As this is our first newsletter edition, I invite our stakeholders and partners to regard it not only as a record of activities, but as a platform for continued dialogue, accountability and shared learning. We remain committed to our vision of achieving a barrier-free society for all persons with disabilities by 2032.

I extend my sincere appreciation to the NDCN Board of Directors, Management and staff, our partners, organisations of persons with disabilities and all stakeholders whose continued support enables the NDCN to fulfil its mandate. Together, we will continue working towards a Namibia in which persons with disabilities participate fully and equally in all spheres of society.



Mrs. Angelique Philander

Chief Executive Officer

National Disability Council of Namibia

LEGISLATIVE & POLICY MILESTONES



REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP

The NDCN facilitated the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Zambian Agency for Persons with Disabilities (ZAPD). The partnership supports the sharing of best practices in disability management and advances knowledge exchange, capacity building, innovation and data-driven solutions.

STRENGTHENING THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK

The NDCN finalised the Cabinet submission for the amendment of the National Disability Council Act, 2004 (Act No.26 of 2004) and submitted the finalised Persons with Disabilities Bill to the Minister. Formal recommendations were also provided to the Electoral Commission of Namibia on proposed amendments to the Electoral Act, 2025 (Act No. 5 of 2015). Legal support was further provided to the Ministry of Health on the drafting of the Mental Health Bill Regulations.

ADVOCACY & EMPLOYMENT

ADVOCACY & COMMUNITY SUPPORT



COMMUNITY AWARENESS

NDCN supported a meaningful community initiative as part of its commitment to social responsibility and awareness-raising around intellectual disability. The event brought the community together in unity, compassion and support, reinforcing the importance of inclusion and understanding.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

NDCN established a Persons with Disabilities Employment Database and a Recruitment Tracking Template. These tools support referrals and enable the Council to track companies that recruit persons with disabilities through its database, strengthening the link between advocacy and economic participation.

FROM AWARENESS TO OPPORTUNITY

KNOWLEDGE & CAPACITY

STAKEHOLDER EDUCATION



DISABILITY-DISAGGREGATED DATA

Training is continuing across all 14 regions to strengthen accurate and reliable disability data collection. The initiative supports evidence-based policy and programme development and aligns with Objective 11 of the Revised National Policy on Disability, 2025.

REVISED NATIONAL POLICY ON DISABILITY

Stakeholder education and training on the Revised National Policy on Disability (2025-2035) and its Costed Implementation Action Plan was launched in three regions as part of a nationwide awareness campaign.

NATIONAL DISABILITY WEEK

NATIONAL DISABILITY WEEK 2026



LÜDERITZ, //KHARAS REGION | 9-11 JUNE 2026

Theme: Building an Inclusive Namibia through Empowerment, Innovation, Accessibility and Equal Participation of Persons with Disabilities.

The event brought together government leaders, Organisations of Persons with Disabilities, development partners, stakeholders and community members to engage in meaningful dialogue, share

experiences and strengthen collective efforts towards a more inclusive Namibia.

Her Excellency Lucia Witbooi, Vice President of the Republic of Namibia, attended the closing ceremony and reaffirmed the nation's commitment to disability inclusion. NDCN remains steadfast in advancing accessibility, equal opportunities, and the full participation of persons with disabilities in all spheres of society.

EDUCATION & ENTERPRISE

FUNDING & EMPOWERMENT



EDUCATION SUPPORT

NDCN celebrates students it funded who graduated on 6 March 2026 through Agra Provision Academy at the Windhoek Showgrounds. Learners with disabilities were also supported to upgrade their results through NAMCOL. Through its commitment to inclusive education, the NDCN continues to invest in the empowerment of persons with disabilities, supporting them in pursuing their academic goals and unlocking their full potential.



ENTREPRENEURSHIP

NDCN received N\$108,000 from the Rössing Foundation to support economic empowerment initiatives. N\$100,000 was allocated to women entrepreneurs with disabilities for essential business equipment.

EMPOWERMENT IN NUMBERS

N\$108,000

Funding received

N\$100,000

Allocated to women entrepreneurs

2026

Graduation milestone

COMMUNITY & LEGAL ENGAGEMENT

ENGAGEMENT IN ACTION



CIRCLE OF HOPE PRIVATE ACADEMY

As part of its community engagement efforts, NDCN visited Circle of Hope Private Academy to better understand the school's current conditions, observe how learners are taught, and engage with the challenges it faces. The visit focused on the support and resources needed to create a more inclusive learning environment.



DRAFT MENTAL HEALTH REGULATIONS

NDCN's Legal Intern, Teofelus Andjene, attended a stakeholder workshop in Okahandja to provide input on the draft Mental Health Regulations. The workshop brought together key stakeholders to discuss the draft regulations, share insights, and provide recommendations towards strengthening Namibia's mental health regulatory framework.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT & PARTNERSHIP

FOSTERING PARTNERSHIPS



SIGNING OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN NDCN & ROTARY CLUB OF KEETMANSHOOP

As part of our awareness-raising efforts, the NDCN and Rotary Club of Keetmanshoop have agreed to assist the NDCN with assistive devices. These assistive devices will play a crucial role in improving mobility, accessibility, and the overall well-being of persons with disabilities across the country.



HANDING OVER OF ASSISTIVE DEVICES TO NDCN

The National Disability Council of Namibia (NDCN) proudly received assistive devices from the Rotary Club of Keetmanshoop during the official handover ceremony held at Central Lodge, Keetmanshoop.

YOUTH & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY YOUTH EMPOWERMENT



NDCN HOSTS FIVE NUST STUDENTS

The National Disability Council of Namibia recently hosted five students from the Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST) as part of their Social Responsibility Initiative. During their time at NDCN, they were mentored and given opportunities



SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY INITIATIVE

to learn about disability rights, inclusion, and the important role communities play in supporting persons with disabilities. This engagement reflects NDCN's commitment to raising awareness and promoting a more inclusive society.

PROMOTING RIGHTS • ADVANCING INCLUSION • REMOVING BARRIERS

National Disability Council of Namibia

www.ndcn.com.na | info@ndcn.com.na

