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MEDIA RELEASE

17 October 2025 – Kavango East and West Regions, Namibia

MEATCO REAFFIRMS COMMITMENT TO ENHANCING LIVELIHOODS IN THE KAVANGO REGIONS

The Meat Corporation of Namibia (Meatco), led by Interim Chief Executive Officer Ambassador Albertus Aochamub, paid courtesy visits to the Governors of the Kavango East and Kavango West Regions, Hon. Hamunyera Hambyuka and Hon. Verna Sinimbo, respectively, on 17 October 2025. The visits formed part of a three-day regional engagement from 16 to 18 October 2025, aimed at strengthening partnerships, reviewing collaborative initiatives, and exploring new opportunities to improve the livelihoods of residents in the two regions.

During the engagements, Ambassador Aochamub reaffirmed Meatco's commitment to inclusive development and the organisation's ongoing mission to generate sustainable value for farmers in the Northern Communal Area (NCA). He underscored that Meatco, through the Meatco Foundation, continues to play a catalytic role in promoting climate resilience, market access, and community empowerment.

“Our work in the Kavango Regions demonstrates that sustainable growth begins with empowering farmers and creating shared value. Meatco is committed to ensuring that communities directly benefit from every stage of the livestock value chain,” said Ambassador Aochamub.

Sustained Investment in Livelihoods and Market Development

Since 2020, the Meatco Foundation has invested N\$8,010,544.85 in the two Kavango Regions through a series of development programmes focused on capacity-building, market development, and drought resilience:

- European Development Fund (EDF 11): The Livestock Value Chain Development and Climate Change Resilience Action (LDCR-NCA) initiative provided the Kavango Livestock Marketing Cooperative (KLMC) with training in livestock

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Interim Chief Executive Officer: Ambassador A. Aochamub, Company Secretary: Ms. N Mhanda

marketing and rangeland management valued at N\$165,325.70, enhancing productivity and environmental stewardship.

- United States African Development Foundation (USADF): Through the Market Access Support Programme (MASP), the Foundation facilitated business plans for livestock auction pens in both regions (N\$25,000 each) and supported the Kavango East Region with N\$4.5 million in funding and mentorship via SME Compete, formalising livestock trade and improving profitability.
- Humanitarian Support – Drought Relief Efforts: Partnering with the Office of the Prime Minister, Meatco delivered 275,969 and 194,540 meat packs (1.5 kg each) to Kavango East and West, valued at N\$34.7 million and N\$24.5 million, respectively. An additional 22,974 game meat packs worth N\$528,402 were distributed through the Rundu Abattoir, reinforcing food security amid Namibia's ongoing drought crisis.

Job Creation and Industrial Collaboration

Since the reopening of the Rundu Abattoir in August 2023, Meatco has created 142 direct jobs, converting all fixed-term contracts to permanent positions in December 2024. In collaboration with the Social Security Commission, Meatco also implemented the Mobile Slaughter Unit (MSU) Offal Offtake Project valued at N\$1,366,074.17, promoting income generation and inclusive local value addition.

The visit also included a stop at the Namibia Industrial Development Agency (NIDA)'s Kavango Cattle Ranch, where Meatco Management conferred with farm officials on strengthening supply chain collaboration to increase cattle throughput at the Rundu Abattoir and improve operational efficiencies.

Outlook: Expanding the Development Footprint

Looking ahead, Meatco, through the Meatco Foundation, will implement the Agri-Business Facility Africa Matching Grant Fund (2026–2027), with N\$337,080 earmarked for each Region. Planned interventions include:

- Farmer Business School and Atingi Training: Building entrepreneurship and agribusiness management capacity.
- Climate Adaptation and Resilience Programmes: Covering fodder production, bush-to-feed systems, rangeland rehydration, hydroponics, and biodigester technologies.

About Meatco

The Meat Corporation of Namibia (Meatco) is a State-Owned Enterprise and a leading processor and exporter of Namibian beef to premium global markets. Through its integrated value chain and the Meatco Foundation, the organisation champions sustainable livestock production, rural empowerment, and equitable participation in Namibia's agricultural economy.

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