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MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Meat Corporation of Namibia (Meatco)

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MEATCO MAKES FIRST AfCFTA LEATHER EXPORT TO KENYA

The Meat Corporation of Namibia (Meatco) is strengthening its position as a key participant in the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). On **20 November 2025**, the Corporation will dispatch two containers of Wet Blue Hides from the Okapuka Tannery to Mombasa, Kenya, marking its first export under the AfCFTA framework.

Meatco recently secured a Kenyan client who will process the hides into finished leather on a trial basis. This initial shipment will undergo quality verification and is being traded under AfCFTA's non-tariff provisions. As part of the trade protocols, the client requires the full declaration of the hides' country of origin in line with the **Certificate of Origin** requirements.

According to Ambassador Albertus Aochamub, Meatco's Interim Chief Executive Officer, this development is a significant milestone for both Meatco and Namibia, contributing to the practical implementation of a market valued at USD 3.4 trillion and representing more than 1.3 billion **consumers** across the continent.

"There are still logistical challenges that we hope to address swiftly; however, this is a positive step in advancing our intercontinental trade aspirations and expanding the leather value chain within Africa. Our continent is endowed with vast natural resources, and increased intra-African trade will generate wealth for all participating countries," Ambassador Aochamub said.

Directors: Ms. S.M. De Klerk (Deputy Chairperson), Mr. J. Andreas, Mr. M. J. P. Hilbert, Mr. C. Khaiseb, Mr. A Muremi, Ms. P.J. Olivier, Mr. A. Tjipangandjara, Mr. P.K. Tjipueja, Dr. D van Schalkwyk

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

He added that he is optimistic about future market opportunities across the continent:

“I hope that more African markets will open up, enabling our hides to reach broader, more competitive markets.”

The consignment will depart for Kenya through the **Port of Walvis Bay**.

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For further information, please contact:

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