

MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIALISATION AND TRADE

MEDIA RELEASE : NEW BIPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade (MIT) appointed a new Board of Directors for Business and Intellectual Property Authority (BIPA) for a period of three years, effective 01 October 2021 - 30 September 2024.

The Board was appointed in terms of Section 8 of the Public Enterprises Governance Act No. 1 of 2019 read together with Section 8 of the Business and Intellectual Property Authority Act No. 8 of 2016. The Board shall consist of seven members from the private and public sectors. It is the Ministry's pleasure to introduce you to the Board members.



IMMANUEL !HANABEB – CHAIRPERSON
(MPhil: Develop. Finance, PGDip Leadership Develop., USB; B.Tech: Accounting & Finance, Diploma: Cost Accounting, NUST)

Mr !Hanabeb is a seasoned corporate executive with a distinct combination of leadership, financial and business acumen, and shall serve as the BIPA Board Chairperson.

In addition, he is a highly dedicated professional with expertise in devising policies, executing strategy and driving growth to meet corporate goals.



HILKA ALBERTO
(LL.M: International Finance & Banking Law, University of Liverpool; LL.B, B.Juris, UNAM)

Ms. Hilka Alberto is an admitted Legal Practitioner in the High Court of Namibia and member of the Law Society of Namibia, where she practiced law for five years before joining the corporate world.

Currently employed as the General Manager for Market Conduct at NAMFISA. Ms. Alberto has a total of 16 years of work experience, of which 11 years has been in Senior and Executive management



ASHLEY TJIPITUA
(MBA, LL.B, B.Juris, UNAM)

Ms. Tjipitua is a Legal and Corporate Governance Practitioner with experience in commercial and competition law, compliance risk and business management, corporate legal advice as well as board governance. She served as a Director for the Enforcement, Exemptions & Cartels at the Namibian Competition Commission (NaCC), where she led market intervention in various business sectors.

In a non-executive capacity, she served as Director for the Corporate Legal Advisors & Governance Professionals Association, as well as a Member of the Long-term Insurance Committee of Namibia Financial Institutions Supervisory Authority (NAMFISA).



JUSTIN STRAUSS
(MDP, USB; BSc: Computer Science and Physics, UNAM)

Currently employed as a Strategic Executive for Information and Communication Technology at the Namibia Airports Company (NAC).

Mr. Strauss has been crucial in the implementation of complex IT projects during his tenure at Roads Authority, such as the National Traffic Information System (NaTIS). It is his openness for simplifying complex systems, which can be an advantage and for the future growth of BIPA.



JULIUS HAIKALI
(M.Admin, UNAM; EDP, WBS; B.Tech: HR, UNISA; Diploma in Public Administration: HR, NUST)

Mr. Haikali has over 23 years of experience in the Human Resource, Organisational Development and Business Strategies field, of which 13 years is at Senior and Executive level.

Currently employed as Chief Human Capital and Business Strategy at Motor Vehicle Accident Fund (MVA). He previously held positions in the public sector such as HR Practitioner, Chief Efficiency Analyst and Business Strategist, as well as HR Manager, OD and Performance Specialist, and Business Strategy Senior Manager in the private sector.



NANCY WATYOKA
(Master in Intellectual Property, Africa University; MDP, USB; B.Tech: HRM, NUST)

An Intellectual Property Expert on Geographical Indications and Collective Trademarks, with academic interests that include Agroecology and Marine Genetic patents. She is a recipient of an AU/World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) research award and was ranked top in Arbitration and Mediation Procedure under the WIPO Rules Certificate from WIPO Academy.

Ms. Watyoka is an experienced executive in start-ups and serves in various capacities in Namibia, South Africa, and Zimbabwe. She is a founder member of the Child Development Foundation in Namibia and serves as Trustee of Hope Village Foundation.

BIPA is an agency of MIT mandated to be the central focal point for the registration, administration and protection of businesses, commercial and industrial properties rights (IPRs) as well to be the legal depository of information, documents and data required to be lodged under the applicable legislation. BIPA is further tasked with the provision of general advisory services and information dissemination on business registration and IPRs.

For more information, kindly contact MIT Corporate Communication Office at +264 61 283 7223 or email at pro@mit.gov.na

Issued by the Office of the Minister

“Growth At Home”