

Inaugural Stakeholder Engagement Information Sharing Session with Civil Society Organizations



Picture: *Acting Deputy Auditor-General, Ms. Ridley van Wyk, delivering the opening remarks on behalf of the Deputy Auditor-General, Mr. Goms Menettè at the Stakeholder Engagement Information Sharing Session with Civil Society Organizations*

On July 16, 2024, the Office of the Auditor General (OAG), in collaboration with Civic+264 and IPPR Namibia, hosted an inaugural event – the Stakeholder Engagement Information Sharing Session with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs). This groundbreaking session was held at the House of Democracy's Justice Seminar Room and marked the beginning of a dialogue between the OAG and CSOs.

The theme of the event, "Understanding the Role of the Auditor General and Finding Synergies with CSOs," underscored the OAG's commitment to fostering transparency, accountability, and effective governance through collaboration and open communication with civil society organizations.

Acting Deputy Auditor-General, Ms. Ridley van Wyk, delivered the opening remarks on behalf of the Deputy Auditor-General, Mr. Goms Menettè, highlighting the main objectives of the session as:

- Better Reach and Impact of Audit Results
- Better Informed Citizens
- Better Informed Audits
- Greater Public Support for the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI)

During the closing and way forward segment, Mr. Shali Kapepo, Deputy Director: Cash Based Directorate at the OAG, outlined the vital role CSOs can play in the Public Finance Management process. He emphasized the importance of partnering with the OAG to strengthen accountability and transparency in the management of public resources through awareness-raising, monitoring the follow-up to the Auditor-General's Reports, advocating for the independence of the OAG, promoting transparency, and attending public hearings.

The event witnessed active participation from representatives of civil society organizations and members of the media, fostering a constructive dialogue and laying the foundation for future collaborations.

This inaugural session marked the beginning of a collaborative journey between the OAG and CSOs, aimed at promoting good governance, ensuring the efficient use of public resources, and serving the best interests of the Namibian citizens.