



04 April 2024

**MEDIA RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**ALL MEDIA**

**RENOVATION AND REPURPOSING PROJECT LAUNCH FOR ALTE FESTE  
SUPPORTED BY THE US AMBASSADOR CULTURAL PRESERVATION FUND**

The Alte Feste stands as the oldest building in Windhoek holding significant historical value for Namibia. Designated a national monument in 1957, it later became the National Museum of Namibia post-independence. Unfortunately, due to limited maintenance, the structure has fallen into severe despair, necessitating extensive renovations.

In an important initiative, the Ministry has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Namibia Craft Centre in order to transform the Alte Feste into a Centre of Excellence for the creative industry while retaining the building's historical significance. This endeavor seeks to revitalize the historic building, reimagining it as a vibrant hub for art and culture that represents Namibia's journey to independence and democracy.

The US Embassy through its Cultural Preservation Fund, enthusiastically backs this initiative. Their support, not only preserves Namibia's rich cultural heritage but also promotes economic empowerment and social cohesion. By investing in projects like the Alte Feste renovation, they underscore their commitment to democracy, equality, and inclusion.

The renovation project will be done in stages, with the first phase focusing on stabilizing the structure and making it functional for diverse activities. Upon completion, the refurbished Alte Feste Complex, located in the heart of Windhoek, will boast a museum chronicling the building's history, a craft market, an art gallery, training workshops, art studios, restaurant/café, and a courtyard event space and offices.

The launch of the Alte Feste renovation and repurposing project scheduled for **10 April 2024**, marks a significant step forward in Namibia's cultural development. With the backing of the US Ambassador Cultural Preservation Fund, we have the opportunity to inject new life into this historic landmark, transforming it into a vibrant center of creativity and community engagement.

For further details regarding this launch please contact Ms. M'Kariko Amagulu, Director of Arts at 061 2933543 or Ms. Shareen Thude, General Manager, Namibia Craft Centre at 061 242222.

**-END-**

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Public Relations**





## MEDIA INVITATION

**TO: ALL NEWS EDITORS**

**SUBJECT: INVITATION TO COVER THE RENOVATION AND REPURPOSING PROJECT LAUNCH FOR ALTE FESTE SUPPORTED BY THE US AMBASSADOR CULTURAL PRESERVATION FUND**

In an important initiative, the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Namibia Craft Centre to transform the Alte Feste. This building, stands as the oldest building in Windhoek holding significant historical value for Namibia.

This initiative seeks to revitalize the historic building, which will boast a museum chronicling the history, a craft market, an art gallery, training workshops, art studios, a restaurant/café, and a courtyard event space and offices upon completion.

Due to the building's historical significance, the US Embassy through its Cultural Preservation Fund, enthusiastically backs this initiative. This support, not only preserves Namibia's rich cultural heritage but also promotes economic empowerment and social cohesion.

The media is hereby invited to attend and cover this event the launch of the Alte Feste renovation and repurposing project:

**Date: 10 April 2024**

**Time: 10h00**

**Venue: Alte Feste Building, Windhoek**

Hon. Ester Anna Nghipondoka, Minister of Education, Arts and Culture will officiate this event.  
*Please see the attached program.*

**Issued by:  
Public Relations**



*All official correspondences must be addressed to the Executive Director*



### Draft PROGRAM

Event: Renovation and Repurposing of the Alte Feste Complex

Date: April 10, 2024

Time: 10AM-11AM

**Masters of ceremonies: Mr. Gerard Vries**

NO	ITEM	RESPONSIBLE
1	Arrival	ALL
2	Welcoming Remarks	Ms. Sanet Steenkamp Executive Director: Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture
3	Introductory Remarks	Pamela Aupindi, Chairperson, Namibia Craft Centre
4	Special Remarks	H.E Randy Berry, US Ambassador
5	Keynote Speech	Hon. Ester Anna Nghipondoka Minister of Education, Arts and Culture
6	Cheque Handover	Ambassador, Minister and Craft center
	Vote of thanks	Shareen Thude- Craft Center
7	Group Photo	All
8	Venue Tour	All
9	End of Program	All