



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT,  
FORESTRY AND TOURISM



## PRESS RELEASE

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### CLARIFICATION ON THE SHUTTLE CONCESSION FOR SOSSUSVLEI- NAMIB NAUKLUFT PARK

The Ministry has noted concerns from the public and tour operators regarding the awarded Concession rights at Sossusvlei in the Namib Naukluft Park. The Ministry would like to let all stakeholders know that the recently awarded concession does not restrict tour operators and lodges registered with the Namibia Tourism Board (NTB) from taking in clients free of charge.

We wish to reassure, stakeholders and the public that the Concession does not prohibit other tour operators from accessing Sossusvlei for business. Rather this Concession will create business for NTB-registered tour operators, by restricting illegal tour operators and unsuitable vehicles such as buses, trucks and 2x4 vehicles. The Concession seeks to preserve the environment to meet the criteria of a World Heritage site.

Also important to note is that, no other tour operator is allowed to pick tourists at the 2x4 parking except for the concessionaire.

Kindly note that under no circumstances can the Ministry privatize any area in the Protected Areas. Should there be any additional information related to the implementation of this concession, the Ministry will inform accordingly.

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