



## MEDIA RELEASE

### Independent Rail Safety Review Supports Ongoing Improvements at TransNamib

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**Windhoek, 27 May 2026** - Due to its commitment to transparency, TransNamib announces receipt of the independent investigation report into the Rovos Rail passenger train derailment incident that occurred on 1 March 2026, south of Keetmanshoop, Namibia.

In response to the event, TransNamib (TN) appointed the South African Railway Safety Regulator (RSR) to conduct an independent investigation into the accident. As Namibia currently does not have a dedicated Railway Safety Regulator, the RSR provided specialised and independent oversight into the operational, technical, organisational, and human factors related to the occurrence.

A feedback session on the investigation findings was held with TransNamib leadership, including representatives of the TransNamib Board and management, as well as representatives of the Namibia Transport and Allied Workers Union (NATAU).

The RSR, under the leadership of CEO Mr. Brian Monakali, formally presented their findings as part of a structured engagement process aimed at strengthening rail safety oversight and operational resilience.

TransNamib notes the findings of the report and will undertake a detailed review to assess applicable recommendations. These will be considered for integration into the organisation's ongoing safety enhancement programmes, operational procedures, and continuous improvement initiatives, where appropriate.

"The appointment of the Railway Safety Regulator reflects TransNamib's commitment to transparency, independent oversight, and strengthening safety across our operations," said TransNamib CEO, Mr. Desmond van Jaarsveld.

He further noted that collaboration with the RSR underscores the importance of regional partnerships in advancing rail safety and reinforcing a culture of accountability and continuous learning within the industry.

TransNamib remains firmly committed to strengthening safety performance, enhancing operational systems, and ensuring the safe and reliable operation of rail services across Namibia.

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### **About TransNamib**

TransNamib (TN) is Namibia's national rail operator, responsible for managing and operating the country's rail network. The organization provides freight and passenger rail services, playing a vital role in supporting Namibia's transport infrastructure, economic development, and regional connectivity.

### **About Railway Safety Regulator**

The Railway Safety Regulator (RSR) is South Africa's National Railway Safety Authority responsible for overseeing and promoting safe railway operations across the rail sector. The organisation regulates safety compliance for passenger and freight, operators through inspections, audits, investigations, and the enforcement of railway safety standards.

The RSR also conducts independent investigations into railway incidents and works closely with operators and stakeholders to strengthen safety systems, improve operational resilience, and promote a culture of continuous safety improvement within the rail industry.

### **About Rovos Rail**

Rovos Rail is a privately owned luxury rail operator renowned for offering premium long-distance rail journeys across Southern Africa. The company primarily serves regional and international tourists, providing curated travel experiences that showcase the region's landscapes, heritage, and hospitality.

The operator has operated consistently on Namibian rail lines for over 28 years without any record of serious injuries. Its services remain fully operational, and the train continued its journey as scheduled throughout Namibia.

### **Media Contact Person:**

Alina Garises

Manager: Corporate Communications

[Alina.Garises@transnamib.com.na](mailto:Alina.Garises@transnamib.com.na)

+264 811 2286 73