

## Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER

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**From:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD  
**Sent:** September 1, 2021 2:37 AM  
**To:** Rormose, Lilly -JBURG -TD; Gendron, Claude -WER; DiFranco, Marcello -JBURG -TD  
**Cc:** Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD; Anctil, Karel -WER  
**Subject:** RE: Postponement of the Teams meeting scheduled for 16th September

Morning Lilly

I talked with Claude late yesterday afternoon and he suggested its probably not necessary to have this meeting with our office, given that I am travelling to meet with Recon on 21/22 October and the meeting with Mala Khanna looks like it will happen on 22 September.

I suggest you go back to Diana and say we think its unnecessary to have the 7 October meeting, given the two meetings planned with ReconAfrica in September and in-person on 21/22 October. Maybe also just apologise for the back and forth.

Thank you  
JP

---

**From:** Rormose, Lilly -JBURG -TD <Lilly.Rormose@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 1, 2021 8:27 AM  
**To:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>; DiFranco, Marcello -JBURG -TD <Marcello.DiFranco@international.gc.ca>; Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD <Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca>; Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Postponement of the Teams meeting scheduled for 16th September

Good morning Claude,

Do you have a further update regarding the proposed call for Mala to have with Recon before end of the election?

Further to my email of 26 August to ReconAfrica, Diana McQueen, has just reverted proposing a Teams meeting on **Thursday, 7 October 2021 at 08:30 MST/16:30 SAST/10:30 EDT**.

@ Marcello and JP, please could you advise on the way forward.

Many thanks,

Lilly

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**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** August 26, 2021 2:04 PM  
**To:** DiFranco, Marcello -JBURG -TD <Marcello.DiFranco@international.gc.ca>

**Cc:** Rormose, Lilly -JBURG -TD <[Lilly.Rormose@international.gc.ca](mailto:Lilly.Rormose@international.gc.ca)>; Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD <[Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca](mailto:Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca)>; Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: Postponement of the Teams meeting scheduled for 16th September

Just to let you know that we are exploring an option for Mala to take a call with Recon before end of the election. Marie-Claude and I are in discussion with oDMT on this and a recommendation is being sent for approval at the moment. Should Mala decides to take the meeting, we will much likely suggest PRET-HOM, JBURG HoO, and WER be in attendance.

Will keep you posted.

Claude

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**From:** Rormose, Lilly -JBURG -TD <[Lilly.Rormose@international.gc.ca](mailto:Lilly.Rormose@international.gc.ca)>

**Sent:** August 26, 2021 5:12 AM

**To:** Jay Park <[jay.park@reconafrika.com](mailto:jay.park@reconafrika.com)>; [craig@reconrecon.com](mailto:craig@reconrecon.com); [scot.evans@reconafrika.com](mailto:scot.evans@reconafrika.com); Diana McQueen  
[claire.preece@reconafrika.com](mailto:claire.preece@reconafrika.com)

**Cc:** Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD <[Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca](mailto:Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca)>; Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <[Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)>; Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>; Vasiliev, Ilie -OSC <[Ilie.Vasiliev@international.gc.ca](mailto:Ilie.Vasiliev@international.gc.ca)>; Morison, Alex -ROPAC -TD <[Alex.Morison@international.gc.ca](mailto:Alex.Morison@international.gc.ca)>; Smith, Nicolaas -BPA <[Nicolaas.Smith2@international.gc.ca](mailto:Nicolaas.Smith2@international.gc.ca)>; Cowl, Terrence -BPA <[Terrence.Cowl@international.gc.ca](mailto:Terrence.Cowl@international.gc.ca)>; Lunstead, Nicole -BPA <[Nicole.Lunstead@international.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Lunstead@international.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** Postponement of the Teams meeting scheduled for 16th September

Good morning Jay, Craig, Scot, Diana and Claire,

We have to unfortunately postpone the Teams meeting scheduled for 16<sup>th</sup> September for the next ReconAfrica briefing/catch-up – please accept our sincere apologies.

Would it be possible to schedule the meeting for Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> September or the first week of October (perhaps Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> October) – we can keep the same timeframe.

@Diana, I note this may not be suitable as you had mentioned the ReconAfrica team generally have meetings on a Thursday, however, if 28<sup>th</sup> September is an option, please let me know.

I look forward to your response regarding the new date.

Best regards,  
Lilly

*Lilly Rormose*

Trade Commissioner Assistant | Assistante Commerciale  
High Commission of Canada Trade Office | Haut Commissariat du Canada  
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**Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER**

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**From:** Anctil, Karel -WER  
**Sent:** September 2, 2021 1:18 AM  
**To:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD  
**Cc:** Gendron, Claude -WER; DiFranco, Marcello -JBURG -TD  
**Subject:** Netherland Sewell Study Identifies 5 Potential Conventional Oil and Gas Reservoir Rock Zones in The First Well (6-2) in The Kavango Basin, Namibia

Hi JP,

See below.

Maybe old news for you but just in case.

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## Netherland Sewell Study Identifies 5 Potential Conventional Oil and Gas Reservoir Rock Zones in The First Well (6-2) in The Kavango Basin, Namibia

NEWS PROVIDED BY  
**Reconnaissance Energy Africa Ltd.**  
Sep 02, 2021, 00:01 ET

VANCOUVER, BC, Sept. 2, 2021 /CNW/ - Reconnaissance Energy Africa Ltd. (the "Company" or "ReconAfrica") (TSXV: [RECO](#)) (OTCQX: RECAF) (Frankfurt: 0XD) and its joint venture partner NAMCOR (the state oil company of Namibia) provide preliminary analysis of the first well drilled (the 6-2 well) in the Kavango basin by Core Laboratories ("Core Lab") and Netherland Sewell & Associates Inc. ("NSAI").

### Log and Core Analysis

The NSAI petrophysical study, the first in the Kavango basin, has identified five potential conventional reservoir zones in the 6-2 well, of which three are clastic zones (sandstone) and two are carbonate zones (limestone, dolomite) based on the first set of core analysis and mineralogical data from Core Lab. This study, which brings together wireline log data, core data, and sample and hydrocarbon show data from the 6-2 well, confirms 198 meters (650 feet) of net reservoir over five separate intervals. The NSAI presentation can be found here [www.reconafrika.com/operations/academic-reports/ReconAfrica-Namibia-Petrophysical-Study-083121.pdf](http://www.reconafrika.com/operations/academic-reports/ReconAfrica-Namibia-Petrophysical-Study-083121.pdf)

ReconAfrica CEO Scot Evans states, "Oil and gas data previously released confirms an active petroleum system. Now, the NSAI reservoir study confirms at least five good quality conventional reservoir targets and top seal to pursue throughout the basin. The seismic data currently being acquired will determine hydrocarbon

traps, size, and geometry (full closure around a reservoir) which will consolidate all the data to identify potential commercial fields for the next round of exploration drilling."

According to Nick Steinsberger, the Company's Senior Vice President Drilling & Completions, "The NSAI study complements the sample logs and geochemical data by demonstrating the presence of reservoir quality rocks in the first stratigraphic test well in Namibia. The oil and gas shows that were reported from the logs at the well site are from reservoir quality rock intervals. The first carbonate reservoir zone, for example, contains core with 17% porosity, several millidarcy permeability (reservoir quality permeability) and some fracture porosity. Porosity reflects the storage capacity of a reservoir rock whereas permeability describes the ability to flow through the rock. The goals of ReconAfrica's stratigraphic tests have been achieved with remarkable success in an unexplored basin and enable the initiation of the next phase of petroleum exploration efforts in the Kavango basin."

## **Seismic Operations**

The seismic field acquisition is progressing well with acquisition of approximately 30% of the 450 km program now completed with good initial data quality. The program is on schedule for completion of acquisition and interpretation by the end of October 2021. The 2D seismic provides the basis for the important second phase of drilling into seismically defined structures or traps, which is expected to begin before year end.

Once the results of the vertical seismic profile and 2D seismic data on the 6-2 well are complete, the Company will make a decision on production testing.

This is an important first step as the information from our first two wells combined with the seismic data, will enable ReconAfrica and its independent engineering, geological and geophysical consultant, NSAI, to prepare a new resource report of the potential of the Kavango Basin acreage and determine the optimal locations of the next tranche of exploration drilling.

## **Environmental, Social & Governance**

In addition to the four solar powered community water wells currently in operation, ReconAfrica, working with local and state water authorities, has permitted another 20 community water wells. The Company has now hired two Namibian contractors, Aqua Drilling to conduct drilling operations and Leben Technical Services to install all solar powered equipment. It is expected both contractors will commence operations in early September on the first 8 of 20 wells where four wells are scheduled to be drilled in Kavango East and four wells in Kavango West.

ReconAfrica continues its commitment to local hiring with over 300 Namibian residents now employed, has a strong commitment to gender diversity and continues to increase the number of women hired locally.

## **About ReconAfrica**

ReconAfrica is a Canadian oil and gas company engaged in the opening of the newly discovered deep Kavango Sedimentary Basin, in the Kalahari Desert of northeastern Namibia and northwestern Botswana, where the Company holds petroleum licenses comprising approximately 8.5 million contiguous acres. In all aspects of its operations, ReconAfrica is committed to minimal disturbances in line with international best standards and will implement environmental and social best practices in all of its project areas.

*Neither the TSXV nor its Regulation Services Provider (as that term is defined in policies of the TSXV) accepts responsibility for the adequacy or accuracy of this release.*


**Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements:** *Certain statements contained in this press release constitute forward-looking information under applicable Canadian, United States and other applicable securities laws, rules and regulations, including, without limitation, statements with respect to the data from the Company's stratigraphic wells confirming a working conventional petroleum system, the interpretation and analysis of data, results and samples from the Company's stratigraphic wells, NSAI's reservoir characterization study identifying five conventional reservoir zones and top seal in the 6-2 well and the characteristics of such zones, confirming 198 m (650 feet) of net reservoir over five separate intervals and demonstrating the presence of reservoir quality rocks and rock intervals in the 6-2 well, the Company's seismic program determining the size and geometry of the hydrocarbon traps located in the Kavango Basin and identifying potential commercial fields for the next round of exploration drilling, the expected timing for the completion of acquisition and interpretation of data from the Company's seismic program, the commencement of drilling into seismically defined structures or traps and when the Company will make a decision on production testing, the information from the Company's first two stratigraphic wells, combined with the seismic data, enabling the Company to prepare a new resource report of the potential of the Kavango Basin acreage and determine the optimal locations of the next tranche of exploration drilling, the expected commencement of drilling operations by contractors on the first eight of the Company's 20 permitted community water wells, the Company's ongoing engagement and communication with stakeholders and traditional authorities in all project impact areas and the Company's commitment to minimal disturbances in line with international best standards and its implementation of environmental and social best practices in all of its project areas. These statements relate to future events or future performance. The use of any of the words "could", "intend", "expect", "believe", "will", "projected", "estimated" and similar expressions and statements relating to matters that are not historical facts are intended to identify forward-looking information and are based on ReconAfrica's current belief or assumptions as to the outcome and timing of such future events. There can be no assurance that such statements will prove to be accurate, as the Company's actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements as a result of the factors discussed in the "Risk Factors" section in the Company's amended and restated annual information form dated May 19, 2021 available under the Company's profile at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com). Actual future results may differ materially. Various assumptions or factors are typically applied in drawing conclusions or making the forecasts or projections set out in forward-looking information. Those assumptions and factors are based on information currently available to ReconAfrica. The forward-looking information contained in this release is made as of the date hereof and ReconAfrica undertakes no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking information, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by applicable securities laws. Because of the risks, uncertainties and assumptions contained herein, investors should not place undue reliance on forward-looking information. The foregoing statements expressly qualify any forward-looking information contained herein.*

SOURCE Reconnaissance Energy Africa Ltd.

For further information: For further information contact: Scot Evans CEO | Tel: +1-877-631-1160; Grayson Andersen Manager, IR | Tel: +1-877-631-1160, Email: [admin@reconafrika.com](mailto:admin@reconafrika.com), IR Inquiries Email: [investors@reconafrika.com](mailto:investors@reconafrika.com), Media Inquiries Email: [media@reconafrika.com](mailto:media@reconafrika.com)

## Related Links

<https://reconafrika.com/>

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Trade Commissioner | Délégué commercial  
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**From:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <[Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)>

**Sent:** August 31, 2021 11:43 PM

**To:** Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>; Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>; Lunstead, Nicole -BPA <[Nicole.Lunstead@international.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Lunstead@international.gc.ca)>; Morison, Alex -ROPAC -TD <[Alex.Morison@international.gc.ca](mailto:Alex.Morison@international.gc.ca)>

**Cc:** DiFranco, Marcello -JBURG -TD <[Marcello.DiFranco@international.gc.ca](mailto:Marcello.DiFranco@international.gc.ca)>; Edwards, Allan -BBI <[Allan.Edwards@international.gc.ca](mailto:Allan.Edwards@international.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** FW: \*EXT\*RE: \*EXT\*Proposed visit to Namibia by Canadian Trade Commissioner

Dear colleagues

I am planning a trip to Namibia in October, in the 3<sup>rd</sup> (18-22) and possibly 4<sup>th</sup> week (25-29). I am meeting with various stakeholders, including government officials, Canadian mining companies and the Chambers of Mines and Environment. I will also be meeting with ReconAfrica. The CEO of ReconAfrica, Scot Evans, has said he will meet with me during my trip (see email below), when I visit the Recon office (in Rundu) and possibly also one of the drill sites.

We can chat closer to the time about any briefing points you want to discuss. Let me know if you want any further information?

Thank you  
Kind regards

### **JP van der Merwe**

Trade Commissioner | Délégué commercial  
High Commission of Canada, Trade Office | Haut-commissariat du Canada, Bureau commercial  
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**From:** Diana McQueen <[diana.mcqueen@ReconAfrica.com](mailto:diana.mcqueen@ReconAfrica.com)>  
**Sent:** August 30, 2021 4:00 PM  
**To:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <[Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Re: \*EXT\*RE: \*EXT\*Proposed visit to Namibia by Canadian Trade Commissioner

Good day Jan  
Sorry for the delay in getting back to you. I have talked to our CEO Scot Evans and he will join you on October 21/22 with some of our Namibian team in Rundu.  
Let's follow up on this as your plans get finalized.  
Please feel free to reach out anytime.  
Best,  
Diana

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 24, 2021, at 7:12 AM, [Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca) wrote:

Dear Diana

Just a reminder we have virtually 'met' on the regular calls the Recon team have had with our Trade Office in Johannesburg. I will be flying into Windhoek from Johannesburg and will then most likely be travelling by road to other Canadian mining companies before hopefully driving onto Rundu.

Kind regards

**JP van der Merwe**  
Trade Commissioner | Délégué commercial  
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**From:** Diana McQueen <[diana.mcqueen@ReconAfrica.com](mailto:diana.mcqueen@ReconAfrica.com)>  
**Sent:** August 24, 2021 2:26 PM  
**To:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <[Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Scot Evans <[scot.evans@ReconAfrica.com](mailto:scot.evans@ReconAfrica.com)>; Claire Preece <[claire.preece@ReconAfrica.com](mailto:claire.preece@ReconAfrica.com)>;  
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Steinke <[craig@reconrecon.com](mailto:craig@reconrecon.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: \*EXT\*Proposed visit to Namibia by Canadian Trade Commissioner

Thank you Mr. VanDerMerwe and congratulations on your new posting.  
We are in the process of discussing dates for our team to be in Namibia again so I will get back to you with dates this week.  
Thank you so much and we look forward to working with you.  
Best,  
Diana McQueen  
SVP ReconAfrica

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 24, 2021, at 5:52 AM, [Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca) wrote:

Dear Scot, Diana and Claire

I am looking to plan a trip to Namibia in the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of October (18-22), and possibly into the 4<sup>th</sup> week (25-29). I would very much like the opportunity to visit your office in Rundu and hopefully one or two of your drilling sites. Will any of your Canadian executive team be in the country during those 2 weeks. If not, that isn't a problem, I can then just meet with your local team there. I have a couple of meetings lined up already with Canadian mining companies on 19 and 20 (Tues and Wednesday) October. I'd therefore like to try and visit your Rundu office and drill sites on 21/22 October.

Please let me know if this would be possible?

Thank you  
Kind regards

**JP van der Merwe**

Trade Commissioner | Délégué commercial  
High Commission of Canada, Trade Office | Haut-commissariat du Canada, Bureau  
commercial

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**Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER**

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**From:** Anctil, Karel -WER  
**Sent:** September 7, 2021 4:13 AM  
**To:** Gendron, Claude -WER  
**Subject:** RE: Follow-up - ReconAfrica  
**Attachments:** NatGeo Okavango.pdf; ReconAfrica Globe and Mail May 29th.pdf; WGM Call Note - WGM and ReconAfrica - September 22 2021-14971665-IB\_LBP.DOCX.DRF


Claude,

Voici la note pour l'appel de WGM avec ReconAfrica.

J'ai jusqu'à maintenant reçu aucune réponse à mes demandes (Template en confirmation de qui participe à l'appel) à oWGM alors il se peut que la template ne soit pas la bonne et nous devons confirmer avec qui elle va parler.

Il existe une multitude d'information sur ReconAfrica dans InfoBank mais rien en matière de biographie du personnel de ReconAfrica. J'ai pris ce qui est disponible sur le web et espérons que la personnes désigné pour cet appel aura son C.V du mis à jours. 😊

J'attends ta rétroaction avant de consulter nos collègues.

Karel Anctil  
Trade Commissioner | Délégué commercial  
Southern and Eastern Africa Bilateral Relations Division | Direction des relations bilatérales avec l'Afrique australe et de l'Est (WER)  
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---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** August 31, 2021 1:46 AM  
**To:** Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** FW: Follow-up - ReconAfrica

Karel,

Une rencontre a été confirmé entre ReconAfrica et WGM pour le 22 septembre à 15h00.

Peux tu stp préparer note de rencontre pour la participation de Mala.

Stp communiquer avec Nyma à oWGM pour savoir si Mala a besoin d'un formation particulier.

Une fois que la note sera finalisé, nous consulterons les équipes pertinents à B-Branch, ainsi que JBURG et PRET-HOM.

Claude

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**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER  
**Sent:** August 30, 2021 12:44 PM  
**To:** Desmarteau, Andrea -DMT <[Andrea.Desmarteau@international.gc.ca](mailto:Andrea.Desmarteau@international.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Chagnon-Lampron, Genevieve -DMT <[Genevieve.Chagnon-Lampron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Genevieve.Chagnon-Lampron@international.gc.ca)>; Guttman, Tamara -WED <[Tamara.Guttman@international.gc.ca](mailto:Tamara.Guttman@international.gc.ca)>; Richardson, Beth -WER <[Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca](mailto:Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca)>; Malik, Nyma -WWD <[Nyma.Malik@international.gc.ca](mailto:Nyma.Malik@international.gc.ca)>; Rymek, Michael -WED <[Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca](mailto:Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca)>; Harvey, Marie-Claude -WGM <[Marie-Claude.Harvey@international.gc.ca](mailto:Marie-Claude.Harvey@international.gc.ca)>; Lalonde, Sarah -WGM <[Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca](mailto:Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca)>; Bérubé, Jacinthe -WGM <[Jacinthe.Berube@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jacinthe.Berube@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Follow-up - ReconAfrica

Andrea,

I would like to follow up to Geneviève's message below.

ReconAfrica has confirmed a meeting with WGM on Sept 22 at 3pm.

Regards,  
Claude

**Claude Gendron, CITP**

Deputy Director (Commercial relations) | Directeur adjoint (relations commerciales)

Southern and Eastern Africa Relations Division (WER) |

Direction des relations avec l'Afrique australe et de l'Est (WER)

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**From:** Chagnon-Lampron, Genevieve -DMT <[Genevieve.Chagnon-Lampron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Genevieve.Chagnon-Lampron@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** August 27, 2021 4:31 PM  
**To:** Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Guttman, Tamara -WED <[Tamara.Guttman@international.gc.ca](mailto:Tamara.Guttman@international.gc.ca)>; Rymek, Michael -WED <[Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca](mailto:Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca)>; Malik, Nyma -WWD <[Nyma.Malik@international.gc.ca](mailto:Nyma.Malik@international.gc.ca)>; Desmarteau, Andrea -DMT <[Andrea.Desmarteau@international.gc.ca](mailto:Andrea.Desmarteau@international.gc.ca)>; Harvey, Marie-Claude -WGM <[Marie-Claude.Harvey@international.gc.ca](mailto:Marie-Claude.Harvey@international.gc.ca)>; Richardson, Beth -WER <[Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca](mailto:Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Follow-up - ReconAfrica

Claude,

Tel que discuté par Teams, svp envoyer un courriel de confirmation à Andrea, qui sera de retour lundi, lorsque la rencontre aura été organisée avec la compagnie car notre bureau voudra également fermer la boucle avec la compagnie qui avait contacté DMT directement.

Merci et bonne fin de semaine,

Geneviève

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** August 27, 2021 2:29 PM  
**To:** Chagnon-Lampron, Genevieve -DMT <[Genevieve.Chagnon-Lampron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Genevieve.Chagnon-Lampron@international.gc.ca)>

**Cc:** Guttman, Tamara -WED <[Tamara.Guttman@international.gc.ca](mailto:Tamara.Guttman@international.gc.ca)>; Rymek, Michael -WED <[Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca](mailto:Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca)>; Malik, Nyma -WWD <[Nyma.Malik@international.gc.ca](mailto:Nyma.Malik@international.gc.ca)>; Desmarteau, Andrea -DMT <[Andrea.Desmarteau@international.gc.ca](mailto:Andrea.Desmarteau@international.gc.ca)>; Boileau, Guy -DMT <[Guy.Boileau@international.gc.ca](mailto:Guy.Boileau@international.gc.ca)>; Harvey, Marie-Claude -WGM <[Marie-Claude.Harvey@international.gc.ca](mailto:Marie-Claude.Harvey@international.gc.ca)>; Richardson, Beth -WER <[Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca](mailto:Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** Follow-up - ReconAfrica

Bonjour Geneviève,

Following oDMT's response on call with ReconAfrica, in which the meeting request was delegated to WGM, we would like to inform you that a call between WGM and the company will be scheduled around the week of September 20. The company will be notified of this shortly.

Should ReconAfrica require urgent assistance between now and the week of September 20, TCS will assist as needed, while ensuring the level of assistance/interactions falls within the guidelines of the caretaker convention.

Regards,  
Claude

**Claude Gendron, CITP**  
A/Director | Directeur p.i.  
Southern and Eastern Africa Relations Division (WER) |  
Direction des relations avec l'Afrique australe et de l'Est (WER)  
Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada  
Cell.: 613.301.3508




---

**From:** Lavergne, Linda -DMT <[Linda.Lavergne@international.gc.ca](mailto:Linda.Lavergne@international.gc.ca)>

**Sent:** August 13, 2021 8:36 AM

**To:** Bérubé, Jacinthe -WGM <[Jacinthe.Berube@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jacinthe.Berube@international.gc.ca)>; Lalonde, Sarah -WGM <[Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca](mailto:Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca)>

**Cc:** Harvey, Marie-Claude -WGM <[Marie-Claude.Harvey@international.gc.ca](mailto:Marie-Claude.Harvey@international.gc.ca)>; Myles, Jennifer -WWC <[jennifer.myles@international.gc.ca](mailto:jennifer.myles@international.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** FW:

**Importance:** High

Bonjour oWGM,

As a follow-up for DMT to meet with ReconAfrica, a decline email will be sent later this morning.

oWGM will be copied on the email, for coordination purposes, WGM meet instead of DMT.

Merci!

Linda

*Linda Lavergne*

Executive Assistant / Adjointe executive

Office of the Deputy Minister of International Trade / Cabinet du Sous-ministre du Commerce international

Global Affairs Canada / Affaires mondiales Canada  
613-608-2924  
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

**From:** Hersi, Ayan -DCB <Ayan.Hersi2@international.gc.ca>

**Sent:** July 29, 2021 1:07 PM

**To:** Lavergne, Linda -DMT <Linda.Lavergne@international.gc.ca>; Mertikas, Gina -DMT

<Gina.Mertikas@international.gc.ca>; \*DMT-Policy/Politiques <D-DMT-Policy@international.gc.ca>

**Cc:** \*DCB-Management/Gestion <D-DCB-Management\_Gestion@international.gc.ca>; Pelletier, Christine -DCB

<Christine.Pelletier@international.gc.ca>; Bieber, Caroline -DCB <Caroline.Bieber@international.gc.ca>

**Subject:**

Good afternoon,

Please find below  
ReconAfrica

DMT's consideration for a meeting with Canadian oil & gas company

| Date of Event   | Event Title  | In-Person Location or Virtual  | Invitee   | Priority  | Requestor   | Rationale  | Drafting Division/ Consulted Divisions                                      | BPT Doc#                  |
|---|--|--|---|---|---|--|---|---------------------------|
| <p><b>Date and Time of Event:</b> To be determined, over the next two weeks</p> <p><u>Parliamentary Break Week:</u><br/>Yes</p> | <p>Meeting with Canadian oil &amp; gas company ReconAfrica</p> <p><b>Speech Required:</b><br/>Not applicable</p> | <p>Virtual</p> <p><b>Is there an option for recorded video message?</b><br/>No</p> | <p>DMT</p> <p><b>Alternate Participant:</b><br/>Assistant Deputy Minister, Mala Khanna (Sub-Saharan Africa)</p> | <p><b>Priority Level for Invitee:</b></p> <p><b>Priority Level for Alternate:</b></p> | <p>Reconnaissance Energy Africa Ltd. (ReconAfrica), a junior Canadian oil and gas company</p> | <p><b>Brief Description of Event:</b> ReconAfrica, a Canadian junior oil and gas company, is currently conducting oil &amp; gas exploration in Namibia and Botswana. In reaction to this exploration project, several conservationists, community leaders, civil society organizations, international media, and even other Canadian companies in the region have expressed their concerns regarding the potential use of fracking and the impact of ReconAfrica operations on the water resources of local communities and the endangered wildlife in the Okavango wilderness region. ReconAfrica requested this meeting to discuss the benefits of the project and their efforts to respond to high-levels of social and environmental criticism raised by some organizations, including international media.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Trade Commissioners Service (TCS) at the High Commission of Canada in Johannesburg Trade Office (JBURG), and HQ have provided ReconAfrica with trade commissioner services. During the last interaction with</li> </ul> | <p>WER</p> <p><b>Consulted Divisions:</b><br/>BPA, JBURG, PRET, WER-Pol</p> | <p>3073-2021/DM002021</p> |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |  |  | <p>the company, there were no requests for additional TCS support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Since December 3, 2020, the department (JBURG, the Southern and Eastern Africa Bilateral Relations Division [WER] and B-Branch) has organized seven meetings with ReconAfrica to share information in line with TCS services, and to provide a venue for the company to provide status updates.</li><li>• On March 9, 2021, The High Commissioner of Canada to South Africa sent the company a letter emphasizing the Government of Canada's expectations with respect to Responsible Business Conduct (RBC).</li><li>• The Chair of the National Contact Point for RBC also held a meeting with the company to underscore Canada's expectations in this regard.</li><li>• The High Commissioner of Canada to South Africa has confirmed that the company has the full support of the Namibian government for this project.</li><li>• Although the Government of Canada expects Canadian companies to work in a socially and environmentally responsible manner, we equally respect a host country's sovereignty when it comes to making its own decisions about important national assets and natural resources.</li></ul> |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

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|  |  |  |  |  |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In addition to extensive (negative) media coverage about the project, and protests at Canadian missions abroad (London, Berlin and Pretoria), the company is currently under investigation by the BC Securities Commission, as well as the U.S. Securities Commission.</li><li>• ReconAfrica requested directly and obtained a meeting with oMINT at 4 pm on Tuesday, August 3rd.</li><li>• Ambassador Rae will also be proceeding with a meeting, without departmental officials present, on August 25th.</li></ul> |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

Best,

Ayan Hersi

Briefing Officer | Agente de Breffage

(Meeting Recommendations and International Events Planning | Recommandations de réunions et planification d'événements internationaux)

Executive Briefing Division | Direction du breffage de la haute direction (DCB)

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# 136 - Protecting the Okavango from oil and gas exploitation

**Latest version in this language:** *Version as sent to Plenary* | Published on: 09 Sep 2021

RECOGNISING that the Working Group 1 contribution to the Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) warns that human influence due primarily to fossil fuels has warmed the atmosphere, oceans and land. Many changes due to past and future greenhouse gas emissions are irreversible for centuries to millennia;

RECALLING that the International Energy Agency (IEA) has stated that “[N]o new oil and natural gas fields are needed in the net zero pathway [...]”;

RECOGNISING that the Okavango Delta is a UNESCO World Heritage site, the world’s largest Wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention, and part of the five-nation Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (KAZA TFCA);

NOTING the ecosystem diversity of the Okavango region and the KAZA TFCA, which is home to many indigenous peoples and other local communities, as well as many endangered species of fauna and flora;

RECOGNISING that the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights guarantees the rights to a healthy environment and free, prior and informed consent (FPIC);

RECALLING that at the 2016 World Conservation Congress (Hawai’i), Members recognised protected areas as no-go zones for industrial activities, including oil and gas exploitation (*Recommendation 6.102 Protected areas and other areas important for biodiversity in relation to environmentally damaging industrial activities and infrastructure development*);

ACKNOWLEDGING the decisions of the World Heritage Committee (WHC) that environmentally damaging industrial activities and infrastructure developments are incompatible with World Heritage status and that States should avoid negative impacts on World Heritage sites from such activities

outside their boundaries (e.g. Decisions 39 COM 7A.4 and 34 COM 7A.2);  
and

RECALLING Decision 44 COM 7B.80 of the World Heritage Committee:  
“[E]xpress concern about the granting of oil exploration licenses in  
environmentally sensitive areas within the Okavango river basin [...]” and  
“[U]rges ... States Parties ... to ensure that potential further steps to develop  
the oil project ... are subject to rigorous and critical prior review, including  
through Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) that corresponds to  
international standards [...]”;

**The IUCN World Conservation Congress, at its session in Marseille,  
France:**

1. URGES all Member States to ensure that human rights and other international law obligations are a primary consideration in all policies and decisions regarding oil and gas exploration and development, and other extractive activities;
2. URGES all Member States to ensure that decisions regarding oil and gas exploration and development and other extractive activities respect the right to free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) and that consent processes include comprehensive consultation on the adverse impacts of climate change, the impacts of the proposed activities on the climate, and risks to water resources, flora and fauna, forests, food security, livelihoods and culture, *inter alia*; and
3. CALLS ON the governments of Botswana and Namibia to ensure, in line with Decision 44 COM 7B.80 of the World Heritage Committee, that strategic and comprehensive environmental impact assessments adhere to international standards, are subject to rigorous and critical prior review and are conducted prior to any further exploration and any future development of oil and gas resources and other extractive activities in and/or affecting the Okavango River basin and its people.

Hide Explanatory memorandum

Namibia and Botswana have issued petroleum licences to a Canadian company for oil and gas exploration in the Okavango region, which could lead to an initial 25-year production license after a commercial discovery. In Namibia, exploration is ongoing; a seismic survey is underway, initial stratigraphic wells have been drilled and more are planned later this year. Exploration in Botswana is slated to begin after initial drilling in Namibia.

The license area spans the Namibia-Botswana border, covering over 8 million acres, including highly ecologically sensitive and arid zones. The licenced

areas border the Okavango River, which flows into the Okavango Delta. Local community members, experts, and the World Heritage Committee have expressed concern about the project's potential impacts on water, including loss of local community access to water sources, contamination of those sources, and whether there will be negative impacts on the Okavango River system including the Okavango Delta.

Both licences encompass land historically and traditionally occupied by San communities and other Indigenous Peoples. Oil and gas exploration and production in this area, with its accompanying environmental harm and displacement, among other impacts, could jeopardize Indigenous Peoples' health, ways of life, cultures, and livelihoods, and wildlife in the area. Local groups and experts have expressed concerns over the environmental impact assessments done to date (one for the initial drilling and one for the 2D seismic survey), noting deficiencies in public consultation and in the analysis. In July 2021, over 100 organizations, including Namibian, regional, and international groups, called for the suspension of oil and gas drilling.

Both the World Heritage Committee and the IUCN have previously expressed concerns about these oil and gas activities. The "Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies," accompanying Draft Decision 44 COM 7B.80 of the World Heritage Committee, provides that "the IUCN and the World Heritage Centre identified some gaps and concerns with the EIA, such as the need for a more detailed spatial distribution assessment of species and to ascertain the connectivity of the ecosystems." The issue has also garnered the attention of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, which asked Namibia to address the impacts of oil and gas exploration and development in the Okavango on women and girls as part of its next periodic report.

Namibia and Botswana are already threatened by climate change, the adverse effects of which will both compound and be compounded by the impacts of oil and gas development on water resources, the local environment, and global warming. The UN General Assembly and Human Rights Council have recognized that climate change is an immediate and urgent global priority (e.g., UN GA Res. 74/219; HRC Res. A/HRC/47/L.19). UN human rights treaty bodies also have recognized that climate change is among "the most pressing and serious threats to the ability of present and future generations to enjoy the right to life," and called on States to "effectively contribute to phasing out fossil fuels" (CCPR/C/GC/36; Joint Statement on "Human Rights and Climate Change").

## HideCo-sponsors

- Africa Institute for Energy Governance [Uganda]
- Asociación Rescate y Conservación de Vida Silvestre [Guatemala]
- Association Les Amis des Oiseaux [Tunisia]
- Association Marocaine pour la Protection de l'Environnement et le Climat [Morocco]
- Association Marocaine pour le Développement des Aires Protégées [Morocco]
- BirdLife South Africa [South Africa]
- BirdLife Zimbabwe [Zimbabwe]
- Center for Biological Diversity [United States of America]
- Center for International Environmental Law [United States of America]
- Conservation X Labs, Inc. [United States of America]
- Fundación Biodiversidad [Argentina]
- Gallifrey Foundation [Switzerland]
- Groupe de Recherche et d'Action pour le Bien-Être au Bénin [Benin]
- Indigenous Peoples of Africa Coordinating Committee [South Africa]
- N/a'an ku se Foundation [Namibia]
- Namibia Nature Foundation [Namibia]
- Namibian Chamber of Environment [Namibia]
- NamibRand Nature Reserve [Namibia]
- Natural Resources Defense Council [United States of America]
- Organización para la Conservación de los Cetáceos [Uruguay]
- Re:wild [United States of America]
- Rede Nacional de Combate ao Tráfico de Animais Silvestres [Brazil]
- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds [United Kingdom]
- SEO/BirdLife, Sociedad Española de Ornitología [Spain]
- Southern African Faith Communities' Environment Institute [South Africa]
- The Born Free Foundation [United Kingdom]
- The WILD Foundation [United States of America]
- Wilderness Foundation [South Africa]



<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/2020/10/oil-drilling-fracking-planned-okavango-wilderness.html>

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ANIMALS WILDLIFE WATCH

# Oil drilling, possible fracking planned for Okavango region—elephants' last stronghold

Hundreds of oil wells could come to cover a huge expanse in Namibia and Botswana, in what has been called possibly the “largest oil play of the decade.”

BY JEFFREY BARBEE AND LAUREL NEME

PUBLISHED OCTOBER 28, 2020

JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA— Conservationists and community leaders in the spectacular Okavango wilderness region of Namibia and Botswana are raising alarms over oil and gas exploration and potential production that they fear would threaten water resources of thousands of people and endangered wildlife.

ReconAfrica, a petroleum exploration company headquartered in Canada, has licensed more than 13,600 square miles of land in the two countries. The home page of the company's website says its intention is to open “a new, deep sedimentary basin”—in other words, a new oil and gas field. The Kavango Basin, as the area is known to geologists, is larger than the country of Belgium, and ReconAfrica says it could hold up to 31 billion barrels of crude oil—more than the United States would use in four years if consumption remained the same as in 2019. It's possibly the world's “largest oil play of the decade,” Oilprice.com, an energy news site, said in September.

ReconAfrica's initial goal, already approved by the Namibian government, is to drill test wells roughly one and a half miles deep in the country's northeast starting in December 2020 to determine the presence of exploitable oil and gas. Experts who have reviewed the Namibian environmental impact assessment for the test wells point to serious problems in the way it was carried out. Meanwhile, approval for a drilling permit in the licensed area in Botswana is under way.

If ReconAfrica finds oil, a February investor presentation says, then the ultimate goal is to drill “hundreds of wells” in the area and open at least some of them using “modern frac stimulations,” a reference to fracking, the controversial practice where underground shale is injected with high-pressure fluid to crack open the rock and release oil and gas.

The threat from oil drilling to one of the planet's most diverse ecosystems and to more than 200,000 people who live in this desert region “boggles the mind,” said Willem Odendaal, the former land, environment, and development project coordinator at Namibia's Legal Assistance Centre, a public interest law firm based in the capital, Windhoek. ReconAfrica's drilling areas overlap with a multicountry conservation park, six locally managed wildlife reserves, and one UNESCO World Heritage site (and could affect another, the Okavango Delta, nearby). The Okavango region is home to the largest herd of African elephants left on Earth and myriad other animals—African wild dogs, lions, leopards, giraffes, amphibians and reptiles, birds—and rare flora.

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gases, and lead to cancers and birth defects, among other problems. Physicians for Social Responsibility, a nonprofit U.S. organization working for a cleaner environment, reports that fracking for oil and gas can be disastrous for wildlife because it can poison the food chain, destroy habitat, and cause mass die-offs of fish and other aquatic species. Nonetheless, the process is often used in shale formations containing hydrocarbons because it's an effective way to wring more oil and gas from rocks.

In response to questions from National Geographic about potential harm from drilling, ReconAfrica's spokesperson Claire Preece said, "ReconAfrica will ensure that there is no environmental impact from these wells. Specific steps are taken that are part of our plans and verified by environmental auditors and technical specialists. ReconAfrica follows Namibian regulations and policies as well as international best practices."

Odendaal said the Kavango Basin license has come as a surprise to many people who would have expected to be aware of it. "I didn't know about this," he said, "nor saw this coming."

Even many who live in the affected region were unaware. "I didn't know there is some company that will come to drill the oil," said Jacob Hamutenya, chairperson of George Mukoya Conservancy, which is about 50 miles from one of the test well sites. The conservancy makes money through sustainable hunting and as a destination for wildlife-watching visitors. "Our income is coming from wildlife and tourists, but if that oil industry comes, it will destroy everything," Hamutenya said, perusing a map of the locations of the test wells.

Namibia's Ministry of Mines and Energy, however, is emphasizing the potential positive effects. The ministry did not answer questions from National Geographic but said in a press release on September 18 that "the socioeconomic impacts of exploratory drilling will result in the employment of locals" and many other benefits, such as new water wells for communities near the proposed drill sites. The Namibian government holds a 10 percent stake in ReconAfrica's oil and gas development, but it is not yet clear what share represents or what it will amount to.

ReconAfrica says it aims to strike a deal with major oil and gas companies if the Namibian test wells prove productive. "We can sit down with Exxon, Total, et cetera, because this is a majors-sized play," said Craig Steinke, ReconAfrica's founder and largest shareholder, in a July 13 interview. "We're confident we'll be able to cut a deal with them."

## Life-giving water

Emerging on the edge of the Kalahari Desert, water shimmers like a mirage in the Okavango Delta. This approximately 7,000-square-mile wetland lies east and southeast of ReconAfrica's licensed area. It's one of the largest inland deltas in the world—a virtually pristine wilderness where antelope splash through grassy floodplains, zebras emerge from mopane woodlands, and elephants plod across shallow channels. More than two trillion gallons of water flow in each year to create a shifting, verdant patchwork of islands, channels, and lagoons.

"Clean water: That is the oil and the gold," David Quammen wrote in a 2017 *National Geographic* magazine story documenting the Okavango Wilderness Project, an initiative supported by the nonprofit National Geographic Society in partnership with other nonprofits and the Namibian government. The project has undertaken scientific expeditions to document biodiversity and human presence in the region, amassing a mountain of data intended to demonstrate why this globally vital region, with its all-important natural water supply, should have the highest level of protection. Take away that water, "and the Okavango Delta would cease to exist. It would become something else, and that something would not include hippos, sitatungas, or African fish eagles," he wrote.

This desert oasis is so extraordinary—and fragile—that in 2014, UNESCO added it to its list of World Heritage sites. The delta is also sheltered by Ramsar, an international treaty to protect wetlands whose signatories include Namibia and Botswana. The Okavango

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Most of the delta's water originates as seasonal rain in Angola's forested central highlands, flows into the Okavango River, and snakes in a three-month journey across the Caprivi Strip before spreading out like a many-fingered hand in the northwestern corner of Botswana. ReconAfrica's licensed exploration area abuts the main river that feeds the Okavango Delta for some 170 miles. Few other water sources are available during the long dry season here.

"It's that pulsing every year that I liken to a heartbeat," said [Anthony Turton](#), a professor at the University of the Free State in South Africa's Centre for Environmental Management who specializes in water resource management.

At present, few fences section off the Okavango wilderness, so as the waters return every year, eland scatter into surrounding areas to find good fodder, and as the antelope disperse, predators—including packs of wild dogs, prides of lions, and solitary leopards and cheetahs—follow them. Wild animals use the entire region, which is why Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe have created the Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area, or KAZA for short. Bigger than Italy, it's the largest conservation area on the continent. ReconAfrica's licensed areas overlap with this huge international park.

ReconAfrica's prospecting and exploration license in Botswana also encompasses the [Tsodilo Hills](#), a World Heritage site that UNESCO has called the "Louvre of the desert"—a repository for more than 4,500 rock paintings, some dating back 1,200 years, created by the Indigenous San. San people from the Khwe and Ju/'hoansi communities in Namibia and Botswana revere this sacred place.

An influx of oil workers into this remote landscape—and the money, roads, alcohol, and pollution they'd bring—would jeopardize the traditional way of life of the San, said Jennifer Hays, a professor of social anthropology at the Arctic University of Norway. Hays has worked closely with San communities in the region for more than 20 years.



## Mixed messages

Some facts about ReconAfrica's project remain murky, but important details are coming to light.

Multiple statements by ReconAfrica officials, as well as technical studies such as the company's May 2020 [Kavango Basin Research Report](#) and [investor presentations](#), reinforce the probability that exploration would involve fracking. Members of ReconAfrica's Kavango Basin senior team include fracking experts. Scot Evans, ReconAfrica's CEO, is a former Halliburton vice president with decades of technical and operational experience fracking shale oil in the U.S., and Nick Steinsberger, the senior vice president for drilling and completions, is often referred to as one of the fathers of fracking for his promotion of the use of high-pressure water mixed with chemicals to crack open the rocks.

In a February 2020 financial investment [podcast](#) interview, Evans said, "We think this unconventional play has a really high chance of success." In standard industry parlance, "unconventional" signals that "a combination of horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing" is often needed.

ReconAfrica spokesperson Claire Preece noted that "fracking is an oil or gas production method in unconventional reservoirs" in her October 21 reply to questions from National Geographic. At the same time, she reiterated that fracking isn't applicable to ReconAfrica's exploration license and insisted that the company was focused on "hydrocarbons in conventional reservoirs" that don't need to be fracked.

The Namibian government says it has not given permission for ReconAfrica to frack. It says that ReconAfrica has a permit to drill two initial test wells but that no onshore oil production license has been granted.

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oil is found, is to open a huge new oil and gas field, which likely would involve fracking. Spokesperson Claire Preece, however, told National Geographic the company intends to focus on oil from conventional reservoirs, which don't require fracking.

The possibility of earthquakes from fracking is a serious concern to Turton. He worries that because this area is so geologically active, seismic jolting could disrupt the flow of the Okavango River, the lifeblood of the region's people and wildlife. "The strategic question that arises," he said, "is whether the potential benefits of [petroleum] outweigh the potential cost of alteration to the only permanent flowing surface water" in the region.

In a report on fracking, the Transnational Institute, an international research and advocacy group based in the Netherlands, raises concerns about loss of community control of land and water where fracking occurs, "especially through water diversion, depletion, and contamination."

"This is one of the worst forms of land theft and neocolonial resource extraction," said Annette Hübschle, a Namibian-raised environmental social scientist and senior research fellow with the Global Risk Governance Programme at the University of Cape Town, in South Africa. After examining ReconAfrica's September 2019 investor proposal describing drilling, possible fracking, and the digging of hundreds of wells in the area, she said that "either the Namibian government didn't read the fine print or it is in denial as to what it signed off on."

Neither Namibia's mining nor environment ministries responded to questions about ReconAfrica's long-term plans. Botswana's environment ministry did not respond to questions either.

## Impact assessment violations

Industry experts, community groups, and environmental activists have expressed concern that ReconAfrica's plans for its test have not been properly vetted through Namibia's environmental review process. National Geographic asked three independent experts to evaluate ReconAfrica's environmental impact assessment (EIA) for its operations in Namibia.

The experts pointed to the lack of physical assessments of fauna and flora and to the possible effects on local communities and other people, on archaeological sites, and on groundwater and surface water. They said that the assessment, consisting only of desktop studies without any fieldwork, is not sufficient to justify the proposed drilling. (The studies and other documents were not made available to National Geographic by either the government or the company, despite requests.)

Namibian law provides for a powerful environmental safeguard, which allows any person, organization, or agency to be an active part of the review process for projects such as this by becoming registered as interested and affected parties; the interested parties are then supposed to be informed and consulted as the review proceeds. This legal protection for the environment and communities apparently was not fulfilled by Sindila Mwiya, the private environmental assessment practitioner in charge of ReconAfrica's environmental impact assessment.

In an email on October 12 to Annette Hübschle and others who had requested the list of interested and affected parties, copied to National Geographic, Mwiya admitted that he had not followed the legally required process for registering interested and affected parties.

Namibia's Environmental Management Act stipulates that an assessment be done "in an objective manner." Throughout the EIA, Mwiya highlights the benefits of the project, and he encouraged the government to approve it.

ReconAfrica's assessment "does not meet with the standards of comprehensive unbiased and scientific investigation required," said

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“It is shocking that this EIA was authorized at all,” said Avena Jacklin, a former environmental consultant in the mining sector. She confirmed that the assessment didn’t include interested and affected parties and “left out key assessments and specialist studies...and has not identified alternatives to fracking,” such as solar and wind power. “None of this has been laid out in the EIA.”

Arkert said the pits to store drilling mud and water described in the assessment are so big that ReconAfrica’s plans for its test wells already may include fracking and may not have been fully disclosed to the Namibian government. (ReconAfrica denies that it plans to use fracking during the exploratory phase, and the Namibian government did not respond to questions about potential fracking plans.)

Whatever ReconAfrica’s intentions, its test wells will require large quantities of water. They’ll also produce large volumes of “cuttings”—polluted rock removed from the drill hole. ReconAfrica’s assessment says the source for the water will be the Omatako River, which flows underground most of the time. Jacklin and Arkert, two of the independent experts who reviewed the environmental impact assessment for National Geographic, said details about water needs for the test wells, which should be addressed, are neglected in the EIA. That includes the volumes of water needed, the number of boreholes, where the water will be taken from the Omatako, how the extraction of water could affect nearby water wells or surrounding communities, and the disposal and treatment of wastewater from drilling.

The assessment acknowledges, however, that ephemeral rivers are of “special ecological importance in Namibia due to [their] biotic richness, large mammals, high value for human subsistence and tourism.”

ReconAfrica’s Preece said the company “will be drilling a water well, then turning it over to the local community” and “will work with them to provide ongoing sustainable opportunities” for making money.

Preece said ReconAfrica is undertaking “exploration, as indicated in the EIA, and if further exploration activities are required, subsequent EIA studies will be undertaken as per the Namibian national legislation and regulations encompassing issues related to water and all other environmental components.” According to the Namibian government, ReconAfrica would need another environmental impact assessment in order to begin fracking for production.

In response to questions about other environmental effects of test wells, Preece said, “Drilling fluids will be reused” and “disposed of safely off-site,” and cuttings “will be managed in lined pits, cleaned, and disposed of off-site,” according to company and regulatory requirements.

National Geographic repeatedly asked Timoteus Mufeti, Namibia’s environmental commissioner, why the environmental impact assessment didn’t disclose water use by the test drilling, and to comment on problems the drilling could cause for local people and the environment. He eventually said he was too busy to talk but that we could come to his office in Windhoek to review the environmental impact assessment and all supporting documentation we’d requested. We asked Shinovene Immanuel, a local journalist, to take up the offer, but when Immanuel got to the office, he was given just a copy of the assessment itself without any supporting documentation.

## Implications for communities and wildlife

“People in the area get their water from hand-dug wells and small hand pumps, Arkert said. “What happens if the company drops the groundwater table and people who live there can no longer access the water they have relied upon for generations?”

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates that it takes about 1.5 million gallons of water to frack a single oil and gas well. A water tanker that holds 3,000 gallons would have to make 500 journeys for each well. ReconAfrica has said it ultimately hopes to

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Community organizer Diphetogo Anita Lekgowa, an Indigenous leader from the small settlement of Khwai in the Okavango Delta, found out about ReconAfrica's plans only about a month ago. Since then, she's been talking to members of her community as well as other local and regional leaders about the project and its ramifications for those who depend on the delta for their food and water.

She's worried.

Lekgowa said that no one has told her anything about ReconAfrica's plans for water use, and she wonders what her community will do if the delta's waters aren't protected from possible contamination by oil and gas exploitation upstream. "We get fish and fruits from the river, so if this drilling pollutes the river, this is not going to benefit us—it is going to kill us."

According to the UN, Namibia cannot feed itself. Its farms support only about 70 percent of its people, and the lands under ReconAfrica's drilling license have more than 600 working farms, some irrigated with water from the Okavango River. Drilling here could further imperil this precarious food supply.

"What will happen when our water gets contaminated?" wondered Ina-Maria Shikongo, the main coordinator of the Namibian chapter of Fridays for Future, a global climate youth movement inspired by the Swedish activist Greta Thunberg. For Shikongo, it's not a question of whether water will be fouled, but when. "What will the neighboring countries do when their livelihoods are impacted because of a choice Namibia made for them?" she asked.

According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the organization that keeps a record of Earth's dwindling species, ReconAfrica's license encompasses the territories of seven endangered animal species, among them the gray crowned crane and the African wild dog, and four critically endangered animals, including the black rhinoceros and white-backed vulture. It's home to 20 other species listed as "vulnerable," including Temminck's pangolin and the martial eagle.

ReconAfrica's environmental impact assessment calls the potential significant effects of oil and gas drilling on fauna and flora in the prospecting area "negligible." According to ReconAfrica's Preece, "The area of interest named Kavango Basin is not situated in a sensitive area at all and all the exploration activities are highly localized."

Rosie Woodroffe, coordinator of the African Wild Dog Working Group with the IUCN, said there are more African wild dogs around the ReconAfrica-licensed region than anywhere else in the world. "Wild dogs are highly sensitive to habitat loss," she said, "and any development within wild dog range which destroys, degrades, or fragments habitat is likely to be detrimental."

Extracting and transporting oil and gas fragments habitat and cuts across animal migration routes. New roads also facilitate animal poaching by providing easy access to wild places. An influx of oil workers in central Africa spurred unsustainable demand for the wild meat of animals such as duikers and buffalo and increased poaching for high-value species—elephants, primates, lions. Even after drilling stops and workers leave, poaching can persist.

Noise too can be disruptive. The Elephant Listening Project found that forest elephants in central Africa switched to a more nocturnal lifestyle as a result of noise from oil exploration and development. Similarly, the American Ornithological Society published a report in 2018 showing that competing noise from oil development caused birds in Alberta, Canada, to change their songs.

"Studies show that there are multiple pathways to wildlife being harmed," biologist and author Sandra Steingraber, who has long studied risks from fracking, told the *Revelator* last year. "Biodiversity is a determinant of public health—without these wild animals doing ecosystem services for us, we can't survive." Elephants, for example, fertilize and seed trees with their dung and excavate the ground, opening up water sources for other animals.

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**Jeffrey Barbee** is a science writer, photojournalist, and documentary filmmaker, whose documentary [The High Cost of Cheap Gas](#), about fracking for oil and gas, has been translated into six languages and won numerous awards. He's the founder of [Alliance Earth](#), an independent environmental and science reporting initiative that collaborates with news organizations around the world.

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Wildlife Watch is an investigative reporting project between National Geographic Society and National Geographic Partners focusing on wildlife crime and exploitation. Read more [Wildlife Watch stories here](#), and learn more about National Geographic Society's nonprofit mission at [nationalgeographic.org](http://nationalgeographic.org). Send tips, feedback, and story ideas to [NGP.WildlifeWatch@natgeo.com](mailto:NGP.WildlifeWatch@natgeo.com).

**Laurel Neme** is a contributor to National Geographic who writes about wildlife trafficking. She's the author of several books, including [Animal Investigators: How the World's First Wildlife Forensics Lab is Solving Crimes and Saving Endangered Species](#) and [The Elephant's New Shoe](#), coming in October 2020 from Scholastic.



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# As Calgary's ReconAfrica drills for Namibian oil, a global outcry over endangered elephants grows

A Canadian company that was little known until recently is now at the heart of a dispute over the wildlife-rich Okavango Delta, putting its business practices and Namibian political connections under scrutiny

GEOFFREY YORK AFRICA BUREAU CHIEF  
EMMA GRANEY ENERGY REPORTER  
JOHANNESBURG, EDMONTON  
PUBLISHED MAY 29, 2021 UPDATED MAY 30, 2021

Standing still and silent, leaning forward and softly lifting a leg in the air, the savannah elephants of Namibia use their highly sensitive feet to detect seismic vibrations and low-frequency rumbles from many kilometres away: distress calls, predator alarms, navigation signals.

Soon, the elephants could be sensing a strange new vibration. If permission is granted, a junior Canadian oil company will deploy its seismic tractors to survey hundreds of kilometres of these African plains for what might be one of the world's biggest new oil developments – and possibly its last virgin oil play.

The project, still in its exploration drilling phase, has become a global cause célèbre, with Namibia's endangered elephants at the heart of it.

This sparsely populated corner of Southern Africa is now a battleground between a Calgary-based company and an informal coalition of environmentalists, Hollywood celebrities, Indigenous activists, wildlife conservationists and Anglican bishops.

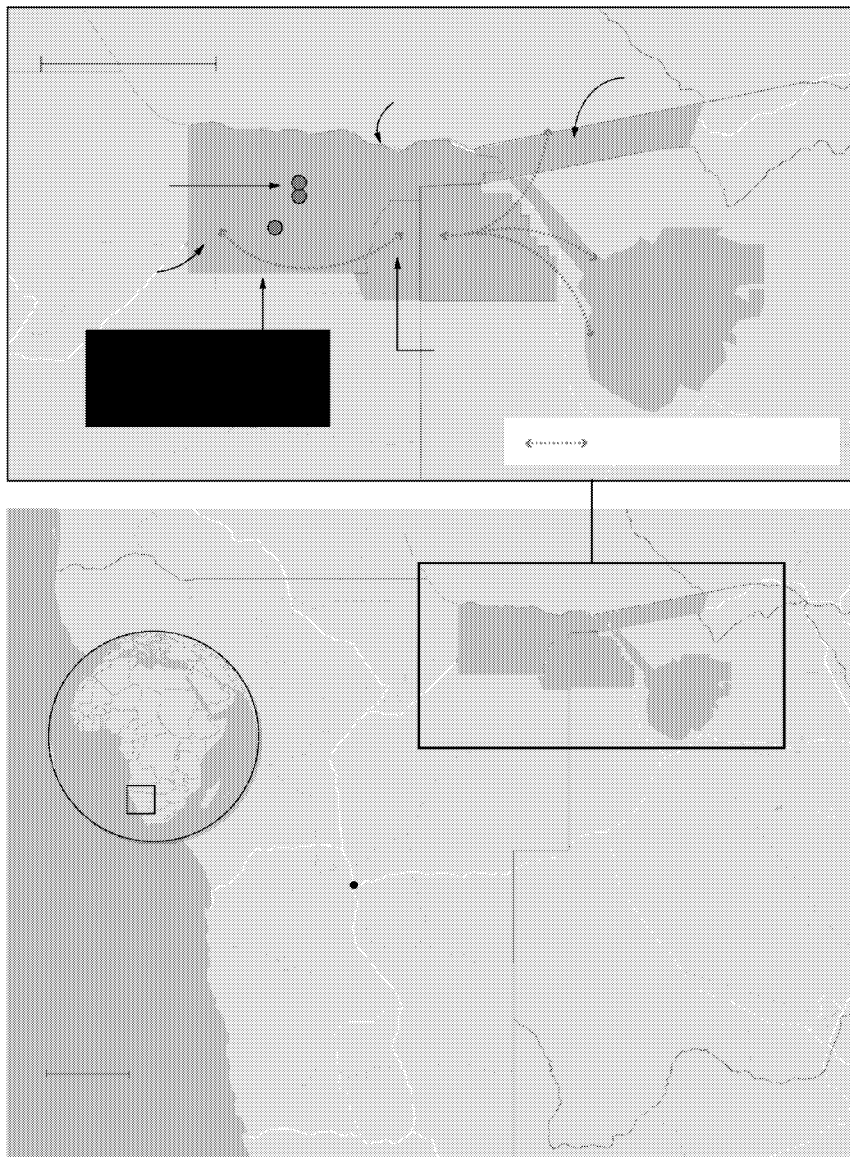
Critics warn the oil development could damage a sensitive environment, threaten Indigenous culture and jeopardize the rivers of a watershed area that leads into the fabled Okavango Delta and its vast gatherings of wildlife.

The company, Reconnaissance Energy Africa Ltd. (ReconAfrica), rejects these allegations. And it is far from powerless in this clash. An investigation by The Globe and Mail found the company's leaders have forged relationships with the Namibian government and with a politically connected businessman in Namibia.

Until late last year, the company faced little public scrutiny, obtaining its exploration licence with few people noticing. But the battle is heating up, with angry protests and petitions. And the herds of elephants, marching across dusty Namibia to their great havens near the Okavango in northern Botswana, are one of the fiercest points of dispute.

When the giant animals sense the noise of the oil drilling and seismic activity, will their migration be dangerously disrupted, throwing an endangered species into deeper peril? Or are the elephants too far away and too few to worry about, as the company has insisted?

Beyond the fury of the environmental skirmishes, another global issue is looming. In an era of worsening climate change, should Namibia listen to groups such as the International Energy Agency and consider cancelling the project entirely? Is this the last gasp of a fading industry? Or is it Namibia's best hope for escaping poverty and generating desperately needed jobs an energy, as its proponents argue?



ReconAfrica's exploration licences cover a massive territory: about 35,000 square kilometres of the Kavango Basin in northeastern Namibia and northwestern Botswana. The area is adjacent to the Khaudum and Bwabwata national parks and two UNESCO world heritage sites – the Okavango Delta, which attracts one of Africa's greatest concentrations of wildlife, and Tsodilo Hills, which contains more than 4,500 rock paintings and other sites from thousands of years of human habitation.

Elephants, African wild dogs, lions, cheetahs and zebras roam the rolling grasslands and desert of this region. How much oil is buried beneath them is more nebulous. ReconAfrica acknowledges there's some conjecture around the figure, but its geochemist, Daniel Jarvie, estimates between 60 billion and 120 billion barrels.

Serendipity played a large role in the company securing what it believes to be the world's last untapped sedimentary basin.

Its Canadian co-founders, Craig Steinke and Jay Park, have known each other for more than a decade, working together on projects around the world. For years, Mr. Steinke has also worked alongside Mr. Jarvie, drilling engineer Nick Steinsberger, and with ReconAfrica chief executive officer Scot Evans when Mr. Evans was at Halliburton Co.

During a recent interview from his B.C. home, Mr. Steinke told The Globe how, in 2013, he landed a worldwide dataset of potential undeveloped oil and gas plays. One of those was in the Kavango region. An old well drilled in 1964 gave him a geological hunch that oil was about, so he leased land in the area.

In 2014, in conversation with officials at Namibia's Ministry of Mines and Energy, Mr. Steinke discovered the government had flown a magnetic survey over the lands he was leasing. Was he interested in buying it? He was. He did. And he sent the data to colleagues in Houston. "The interpretation came back very positive, in that there was a big, deep sedimentary basin here that nobody knew was there," he says. "So I consummated the leasing of the lands in early 2014, and that's how one little company wound up with an entire sedimentary basin."

Despite some offshore exploration, Namibia is far from a traditional oil hot spot. That has resulted in myriad challenges for ReconAfrica, the largest of which was the lack of drilling rigs in the country. In summer 2019, when the company tried to find contractors who could drill the three wells contracted under its agreement with the Namibian government, it discovered there were no land rigs in the vicinity.

"It didn't take long to realize we could actually buy our own rig, drill these three wells, and own the rig at the end of the day for about half the cost that these drilling contractors were quoting us," Mr. Steinke says.

The solution? Buy a rig in Texas, refurbish it for use in the desert climate, sail it to Namibia on a 600-foot-long transport ship called the Yellowstone, and truck it inland to ReconAfrica's drilling lease. After pandemic-related delays, the rig landed in December, 2020.

In January, ReconAfrica drilled its first well. On May 5, it announced its second.

Under its partnership contract with the Namibian government and state-owned oil company NAMCOR, ReconAfrica will drill three wells and establish whether there's an active petroleum system.

At first blush, it looks promising. The company has already found light oil and natural gas with a high energy content. "Fantastic," Mr. Steinke says, "but it's a long process to deeming the play commercial."



[Open this photo in gallery](#)

Canadian and Namibian flags fly on top of a tower at the drilling site. ReconAfrica's geochemist estimates between 60 billion and 120 billion barrels of oil is buried in the region, but the company says the exact figure is disputable.

JOHN GROBLER/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

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While the technical obstacles have been significant, the company always had one big advantage: its strong relationship with the Namibian government, which has been eagerly hoping to build an oil industry and generate new revenue sources for the country of fewer than three million people, traditionally reliant on tourism and mining.

"It was very important to find the governments that needed Indigenous sources of energy and would be very supportive of ReconAfrica's efforts," Mr. Steinke says. "They had a very good, modern petroleum regime and great fiscal terms."

Mr. Park, an oil and gas lawyer who for years was based in Calgary and is now ReconAfrica's chair, has been central to the company's efforts to develop close relations with the Namibian Energy Ministry. "He's done a wonderful job ingratiating the company with the ministry," Mr. Steinke said in an online presentation to investors last year.

This, indeed, is an area of expertise for Mr. Park, who has long experience in 17 African countries and is now based in London. But critics say his relationships with African governments have occasionally been questionable. They point to a report by a United Nations monitoring group in 2015 that alleged a conflict of interest in Mr. Park's role as a legal adviser at Somalia's Petroleum Ministry.

In 2013, the Somali ministry had awarded a dozen offshore oil and gas blocks – totalling 60,000 square kilometres – to a small British company, Soma Oil & Gas, which had been incorporated only a few months earlier. The British company later paid more than US\$494,000 to Mr. Park's firm for the legal services he provided to the ministry during the negotiations for the deal, according to the report by the UN Monitoring Group on Somalia and Eritrea.

#### STORY CONTINUES BELOW ADVERTISEMENT

The monitoring group cited a report by a ministry legal adviser who said the government might not have received proper legal representation in the negotiations because Mr. Park had a conflict of interest.

Mr. Park denies any impropriety. He says the Somali government asked the British company to pay his legal fees after the oil deal negotiations were concluded, and he describes this as a common arrangement.

In the same report, the UN group said Mr. Park had been involved in an earlier incident in 2011 in which his team of lawyers helped transfer a US\$2-million payment from Calgary-based Griffiths Energy International Inc. to a company owned by the wife of the ambassador of Chad, a notoriously corrupt African country where Griffiths was seeking oil and gas rights. The payment led to a bribery investigation by the RCMP, and Griffiths eventually agreed to pay a fine of more than \$10-million.

This week, U.S. authorities announced they had filed criminal charges against two former Chadian diplomats and a co-founder of Griffiths in connection with the bribery scheme. The company's co-founder, Naeem Tyab, has pleaded guilty and agreed to forfeit US\$27-million in criminal proceeds, the U.S. Justice Department said.

Mr. Park says his team inquired, at the time of the US\$2-million payment, whether it was going to government officials and was assured it was not. He says the company later discovered the connection to the ambassador's wife, and he helped the company to self-investigate and voluntarily disclose the payment to the RCMP.





[Open this photo in gallery](#)

Jay Park, shown in Calgary in 2006, is one of the Canadian founders of ReconAfrica.

TODD KOROL/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

In Mr. Park's latest venture, analysts have pointed to a different kind of connection between the oil company and the government. ReconAfrica has confirmed that last year it retained the services of a controversial Namibian businessman, Knowledge Katti, who has been the frequent subject of local media reports for his close links to senior Namibian officials, including President Hage Geingob.

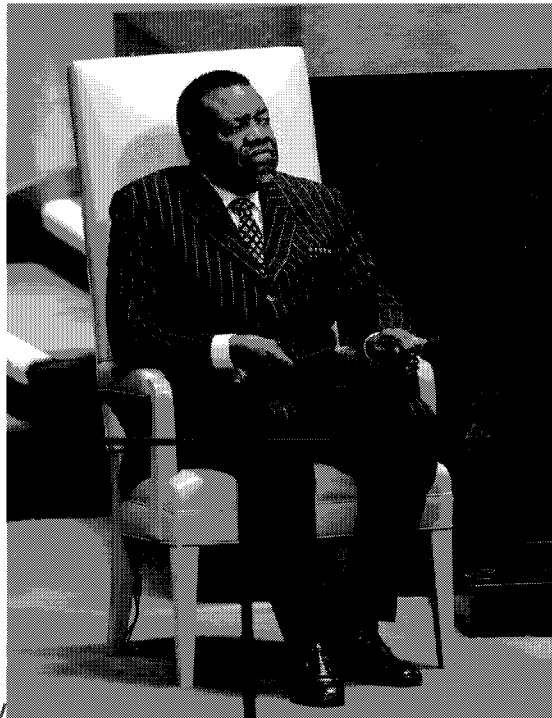
In an interview with The Globe, Mr. Park initially said ReconAfrica had no involvement with Mr. Katti. But a company spokesperson later said Mr. Katti was "briefly engaged as a media relations consultant for ReconAfrica in Namibia, starting in October 2020" and no longer has any business relationship with the company.

Mr. Katti, according to many reports in media outlets over the past decade in Namibia and South Africa, is a friend of Mr. Geingob. He has often travelled abroad with the President, sometimes as a member of official delegations, and has even paid for some of Mr. Geingob's medical bills.

He has a long history of involvement as a middleman in mining and energy deals in Namibia, often with Canadian companies or other foreign investors. In leaked e-mails in 2017, he spoke of his political influence and his "inside contacts" in the government, and promised to "work the magic" on behalf of a business partner, according to media reports.

“It’s a matter of great concern if someone with close links to the President is also connected to a company that is involved in highly controversial and potentially damaging extractive activities,” says Graham Hopwood, executive director of the Institute for Public Policy Research in the Namibian capital, Windhoek.

“We need Namibian institutions to remain scrupulously independent as the activities and plans of ReconAfrica are monitored and assessed,” he told The Globe. “The allocation of petroleum exploration licences in Namibia has been mired in controversy for years with very little transparency about who is benefiting. The granting of such licences needs to be opened up to public scrutiny and the involvement of politically connected persons ruled out.”



[Open this photo in gallery](#)

Namibian President Hage Geingob waits to deliver an address to the UN General Assembly in New York in 2018.

CARLO ALLEGRI/REUTERS

Annette Hubschle, a senior research fellow at the University of Cape Town and a member of a Namibian environmental group, says she’s concerned by the role of Mr. Park and Mr. Katti in the ReconAfrica development because of their involvement in questionable earlier deals. It’s part of a larger pattern in Southern Africa, she says. “Oil explorations across the region have been mired in environmental, political and social scandals with long-term devastation for local and Indigenous communities.”

The impact on those communities is the subject of heated debate. James Suzman was the first social anthropologist to work in Namibia’s eastern Omaheke region – on the southern edge of where ReconAfrica is tapping for oil – and has written extensively on

the San Indigenous people who live there. He also helped develop local consultation processes for diamond mining giant De Beers in next-door Botswana.

What worries him about the ReconAfrica project is the lack of full consultation with local communities. Consultations require community meetings, he says. They require scale, complexity, long and careful checklists. "The process of getting prior and informed consent is not about sticking out pamphlets and holding a few bloody community meetings," Mr. Suzman said in a recent interview from Britain. "You record everything, do everything, you go back and forth. It requires, above all, time."

ReconAfrica's Mr. Steinke counters his company has gone over and above what's required. A Namibian team has translated pamphlets about the project into local languages and dropped them off to rural villages. The company has taken out radio and newspaper ads. It has drilled community water wells.

He argues this has resulted in broad support for the operation, but acknowledges there's always room to expand stakeholder relations.

For Mr. Suzman, though, the fact local communities tend to be politically marginalized has opened up the very real possibility of the Namibian government "steamrolling through."

As global awareness of the project grows, so does opposition to it. The Okavango Delta is world-famous, not just among environmentalists but also among ecotourists and travellers.

Locally, a farmer has taken the company to court over land issues, and more than 30 Southern African Anglican bishops recently labelled the project a sin. Hollywood star Leonardo DiCaprio has criticized ReconAfrica's plan, Canadian environmentalist groups are demanding officials here hold the company accountable for what they deem ecologically questionable activities, and the UNESCO World Heritage Centre has voiced concern about the oil development's potential impact on the heritage sites.

Mr. Steinke dismisses those objections. "It's easy to criticize" an oil project on another continent when you live in the developed world, he says, where the lights flick on at the touch of a switch and clean water is a simple matter of turning a tap.

Darias Jonker, who monitors Southern Africa for the Eurasia Group, a political risk consultancy firm, agrees that opposition to the project is comparably light on the ground in Namibia, but says it's nothing to do with apathy. Rather, he says, it's that the project is in a sparsely populated region, combined with the fact there's no strong political opposition in the country.

"There aren't too many communities directly affected by this, and this is also one of the reasons why the initial stages of the project managed to slip by relatively unnoticed. But now there's this rapidly escalating opposition to these plans, because they do threaten the very fragile ecosystem," he says.

He thinks it also helps the project is still in its exploration stages, although that may change if ReconAfrica finds the proof it wants to ramp up operations into commercial production – a prospect Mr. Park says he’s “very bullish about.”

The elephants are one of the most crucial issues in the environmental battle. If the company gets approval, it will move ahead with seismic testing for 40 days over a 450-kilometre stretch of territory, largely on public roads, using a tractor-sized vehicle. ReconAfrica says the seismic survey will not interfere with wildlife communication or migratory movements, and will be monitored by a wildlife expert on the company’s staff. The elephant migration route at the southern end of its exploration area will be a no-go zone, Mr. Steinke says.

But environmentalists are skeptical. Elephants don’t necessarily walk in clearly defined paths, they say. When an oil company operated near a national park in Uganda, elephants moved up to eight kilometres away from the seismic activity and shifted to nocturnal activity to avoid the daytime operations, according to scientific studies.

“Until absolutely proven to not harm savannah elephants, the seismic activity should be halted,” the environmental group Frack Free Namibia and Botswana said in a 14-page submission to Namibia’s environmental commissioner.

If ReconAfrica wants to begin production, Mr. Jonker expects opposition to grow, and quickly. Court challenges, international pressure through diplomatic and financing channels, environmental lobbying – “they certainly are not going down without a fight.”

Earlier this year, ReconAfrica made the 2021 TSX Venture 50, a ranking of the top performers on the exchange, selected based on their ability to access capital for growth and scale up their business. But in an early example of the international lobbying, U.S. Senator Patrick Leahy this week called for “prompt and thorough scrutiny” of the Namibia project by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

Earlier this month, a 44-page complaint was filed at the SEC, alleging ReconAfrica may have misled investors in press releases and other promotional material. More than 150 promotional items about the company have been disseminated by ReconAfrica and third-party promoters since 2019, often containing misleading information or failing to disclose the compensation paid to the publishers or their financial interest in the company’s stock, according to the SEC complaint, which was provided to The Globe with the complainant’s name kept confidential.

A check by The Globe showed ReconAfrica has been the focus of numerous glowing articles on [oilprice.com](http://oilprice.com) over the past eight months. Each is by a different author with no other online presence and only a single byline on the website.

The company says it has been transparent and legal in all of its finances, and the SEC complaint is an unproven allegation. “Anyone can file a complaint with the SEC,” it says. “There are no standards or requirements for accuracy or truth for these filings.”

Neil Brown, a senior fellow with the Atlantic Council's Global Energy Centre, says he believes there's a possibility of a "significant backlash" against the company – not only because of international activism against drilling near one of the most important wildlife habitats in Africa, but also because of concerns that ReconAfrica is not taking sufficient environmental precautions to protect drinking water in a country that "has essentially no enforcement capabilities."

Namibia's Minister of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform, Calle Schlettwein, said publicly this week his ministry has not yet issued permits to the company for the water boreholes it has been drilling. The company responded by saying it has the "necessary consent" from the traditional authorities in the region.

Mr. Brown also points to the fact Namibia's long history of mining doesn't translate into a framework to manage oil resources. Nor is the country a participant in the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, the basic global standard followed by 55 countries for transparency and good governance in oil, gas and mining. Oil rushes, he says, "have a bad track record across much of sub-Saharan Africa in terms of promoting corruption, distorting the economy, perpetuating inequality locally and failing to meet expectations of economic development."

Mr. Park of ReconAfrica acknowledges Namibia's onshore oil regulations will require further work, particularly around rules that govern the abandonment of wells. Still, he says the company's development plan will address how abandonment is done properly and funded adequately.

But why Africa? And why now? After all, the International Energy Agency's most recent report, released May 18, pulled no punches: Fossil fuels should play a virtually non-existent role in a world striving to meet its goal of net-zero emissions by 2050.

The Paris-based agency recommends an immediate halt to investment in all new oil, gas and coal projects. Limiting the worst effects of climate change will require a huge decline in the use of fossil fuels, it says, falling from almost four-fifths of total energy supply today to slightly more than one-fifth by 2050. For oil specifically, it says the lion's share of supply will likely come from OPEC countries. (Namibia is not an OPEC member.)

That leads to the question of why a massive virgin oil play in Southern Africa would be developed at all.

"It is difficult to begrudge a poor country from wanting to develop," Mr. Jonker says. But he says the project's cost-benefit calculation needs "a lot of scrutiny."

At ReconAfrica, Mr. Steinke acknowledges the world is undergoing an energy renaissance, but says governments have to get real about how to meet targets for cleaner energy. As it stands, he says the timeline politicians have set out for energy technology is "fanciful thinking."

Namibia is better placed financially than some of its neighbours, but it remains relatively poor, and there are few economic drawcards save for tourism, fishing and mining (mostly diamonds). That leaves the country thirsty for revenue options, and the potential royalties geyser from a giant oil reserve is an attractive proposition.

Under a roadmap set out by former president Sam Nujoma in 2004, Namibia plans to become “a prosperous and industrialized nation” by 2030. The country detailed a host of lofty goals, including processing natural resources and building industries in all sectors of the economy.

“How do you even have another industry if you don’t have energy?” Mr. Steinke asks. “It can’t be done. This area needs help.”

ReconAfrica employs about 200 Namibians, comprising around 80 per cent of its work force. Half of those are locals from the region surrounding the project. But Mr. Suzman argues the oil project isn’t particularly labour-intensive. “I can’t imagine any project like this generating considerable local value in any substantive way, shape or form,” he says.

ReconAfrica takes a different view. Mr. Steinke says if critics spent time in Namibia to understand generational poverty in the Kavango, they would walk away with a different attitude.

“ReconAfrica is not here to flip the property,” he says. “That’s not our intention. We’re here for the long term.”

STORY CONTINUES BELOW ADVERTISEMENT



## **WGM Call with: Mr. Scot Evans, CEO, Mr. Craig Steinke, Founder, and Ms. Diana McQueen, VP Communications and External Relations, ReconAfrica**

September 22, 2021, 02:00 PM

### **Biography**

#### **Mr. Scot Evans, CEO**

- Combined 35 years of experience with Exxon, Halliburton, and Recon Africa and responsible for leading the company in its exploration and development of the Kavango Basin. In November 2019 he retired from Halliburton as Vice President, Integrated Asset Management (IAM) and Technical Consulting. He is an active member of the SPE and AAPG and a Trustee of the American Geoscience Institute.

#### **Mr. Craig Steinke, Founder**

- Founder of Recon Africa and entrepreneur who has been the head of a multitude of oil and gas related companies. Member of The Association of International Petroleum Negotiators. Mr. Steinke received an undergraduate degree from The California State University.

#### **Ms. Diana McQueen, VP – Communications and External relations**

- Independent Director at MEG Energy Corp. and a Senior Vice President-Corporate Communications at Reconnaissance Energy Africa Ltd. She has held various Alberta provincial cabinet roles including Minister of Energy, Minister of Environment & Water, Minister of Environment & Sustainable Resource Development/Forestry and Climate Change, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Government House leader, and member of numerous committees such as Treasury Board, and Agenda & Priorities.

### **Agenda (TBC)**

- Introduction of ReconAfrica
- Update on ReconAfrica operations in Namibia & Botswana (PowerPoint presentation)
- Summary of previous engagement with Post



## Key Messages

- Canadian companies with good responsible business conduct can bring positive benefits to the communities where they are active and this can likely translate into improved work relations
- The Government of Canada is committed to maintaining close communication with ReconAfrica about their project in Namibia.
- Canada expects Canadian companies active abroad to respect human rights, to operate transparently and in consultation with host governments and local communities, and to work in a socially and environmentally responsible manner, while respecting applicable laws.
- We look forward to learn more on your ESG plan and hope that it will substantively address opposition to oil exploration activities in Namibia and Botswana and include proactive communication with stakeholders.

## Objectives

- Follow-up on latest ReconAfrica exploration activities in northeast Namibia and northwest Botswana, known as the Kavango Basin.
- Confirm latest engagement with local stakeholders (Government and civil society).
- Enquire about ReconAfrican short and medium-term objectives as they relate to local stakeholder's engagement.

## Context

- This meeting was initially requested by Recon Africa to..... but, following oDMT's decision on call with ReconAfrica, you were selected as the right individual to engage with the company. HOM Cooter (PRET), Lunstead (BPA), Edwards and Van Der Merwe (JBURG) and Gendron (WER) will be with you on this call.
- Within the past year, ReconAfrica has been widely condemned for engaging in the exploration and development of oil and gas in northeast Namibia and northwest Botswana, known as the Kavango Basin. The company faced little scrutiny in 2020 when it obtained its exploration license. However, local stakeholders began to raise their concerns in early 2021. In May 2021, the story became public due to the National Geographic and the Globe and Mail respectively publishing May 21 and May 29 articles regarding the impact of ReconAfrica's operations on local communities' water resources as well as the endangered wildlife in the Kavango Basin. Since then, ReconAfrica has faced a bevy of local, regional, Canadian and international criticism and concerns centered around environmental protection and sustainability. However, there are no allegations of human rights abuses. The NCP has met with the company to provide Responsible Business Conduct (RBC) guidance and has not received a request for review to





date. During the last call with ReconAfrica, organized by JBURG on July 8, ReconAfrica indicated plan to release an updated ESG plan in early August.

- Protests have notably occurred at Canadian missions in Berlin, London and Pretoria and complaints were submitted to U.S. and B.C. securities regulators, alleging the company has engaged in deceptive stock promotion and inadequate disclosures. A number of online petitions against ReconAfrica's project are being circulated and have been signed by over 300,000 people and some are still open. ReconAfrica is well aware of the negative social media attention they have been receiving. They have adopted a proactive communications strategy and hired three PR firms to assist them.
- Since December 2020, ReconAfrica has held eight meetings with Government of Canada interlocutors across different departments (JBURG, the Southern and Eastern Africa Bilateral Relations Division [WER] and B-Branch) and, most recently, with PRMNY HOM Rae on August 25th.
- The majority of these meetings have been with our High Commission in Pretoria and the High Commission's Trade Office in Johannesburg, both of which are accredited to Namibia. They have provided ReconAfrica with trade commissioner services and JBURG has played a monitoring and advisory role with regards to this issue. There were no requests for additional TCS support during the last formal interaction with the company on July 8<sup>th</sup> when the company confirmed plans to continue drilling and seismic testing in Namibia.
- On March 9, 2021, The High Commissioner of Canada to South Africa sent the company a letter emphasizing the Government of Canada's expectations with respect to RBC and that Canadian companies were expected to comply with local laws and Canadian laws that cover doing business internationally (including the Corruption of Foreign Public Officials Act (CFPOA)). The Chair of the National Contact Point for RBC also held a meeting with the company to underscore Canada's expectations in this regard.
- JBURG also made the suggestions to ReconAfrica to consult with Canadian Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) experts such as Mr. Jeffrey Davidson (Canada's former Extractive Sector CSR Counsellor) on best practices around stakeholder engagement.
- During the meeting with PRMNY HOM Rae, the Ambassador recommended that ReconAfrica reps engage with UN Resident coordinators in Namibia and Botswana. JBURG and PRMNY followed up with relevant contact. It is important to note that, on September 9<sup>th</sup>, the International Union for Conservation of Nature has put forward a motion to protect the Okavango Delta from oil and gas exploitation but no company name is mentioned.
- Regarding Namibian support for ReconAfrica operations and CSR related initiatives, PRET-HOM has confirmed that the company has the full support of the Namibian government for this project.

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- The Economic Adviser to Namibian President Hage Geingob, Mr. James Mnyupe, said in his meeting with PRET-HOM in June 2021 that the Namibia government is supportive of the project. He also conveyed that the Namibian government is keen to see if there are resources to be exploited and from there, they can best determine if and how they could do this responsibly.
- ReconAfrica made a donation of 15 million Namibian dollars (approx. CAD \$1.26M) towards the Namibian government's Covid-19 crisis management roll-out. The funds will be utilized for the procurement of vaccines and other urgent health related equipment for the fight against Covid-19 in Namibia.
- In an effort to address environmental concerns, ReconAfrica is committing to becoming a net zero emitter and is planning to contribute CAD \$10 million towards net zero commitments. The company is in the process of hiring a consultancy firm that would assist it in achieving its Net Zero (carbon) targets.
- In addition to the four community water wells ReconAfrica has drilled thus far, working in alliance with the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform and Governors offices of east and west Kavango, the Company has permitted an additional 20 community water wells. Of the 20 permitted water wells, eight locations have been selected. The budget for the drilling and completion of the initial eight of 20 community water wells is  
All community water wells will be solar powered and the company has now hired Namibian contractors to install equipment and it is expected they will commence operations on the first wells in early September.
- The company currently employs over 300 Namibian residents.

### **Our assessment of the letter/situation**

- Canada has a strong and positive relationship with Namibia and Botswana, centered around strong commercial ties, notably in the mining sector.
- Other Canadian companies currently operating in the region have shown exemplary leadership in establishing corporate social responsibility initiatives to contribute to the development of local communities, as well as green initiatives to reduce their environmental footprint.

**Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER**

---

**From:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD  
**Sent:** September 7, 2021 5:01 AM  
**To:** Rormose, Lilly -JBURG -TD  
**Subject:** RE: Follow-up - ReconAfrica  
**Attachments:** RE: Postponement of the Teams meeting scheduled for 16th September

Hi Lilly

Did you respond to Diana last week?

We just need to apologise for the back and forth but that we don't think its necessary any longer to have a 7 October meeting, given the two meetings planned with ReconAfrica on 22 September (with Mala) and in-person with me on 21/22 October.

Thank you  
JP

---

**From:** Rormose, Lilly -JBURG -TD <[Lilly.Rormose@international.gc.ca](mailto:Lilly.Rormose@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** September 7, 2021 9:15 AM  
**To:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <[Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Follow-up - ReconAfrica

Hi JP

Ok, thanks – noted. So I won't follow-up any further with ReconAfrica regarding the new date/time we had suggested for the meeting.

Lilly

---

**From:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <[Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** September 7, 2021 8:57 AM  
**To:** Rormose, Lilly -JBURG -TD <[Lilly.Rormose@international.gc.ca](mailto:Lilly.Rormose@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: Follow-up - ReconAfrica

Hi Lilly

See below. Meeting between Recon and Mala to take place on 22 September. Karel is preparing briefing notes. No additional requests for us yet.

Thanks  
JP

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** August 31, 2021 4:32 PM  
**To:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <[Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)>

**Cc:** DiFranco, Marcello -JBURG -TD <[Marcello.DiFranco@international.gc.ca](mailto:Marcello.DiFranco@international.gc.ca)>; Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD <[Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca](mailto:Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca)>; Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: Follow-up - ReconAfrica

FYI

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER  
**Sent:** August 30, 2021 12:47 PM  
**To:** Malik, Nyma -WWD <[Nyma.Malik@international.gc.ca](mailto:Nyma.Malik@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: Follow-up - ReconAfrica

Nyma,

Are you aware of specific template that Mala likes in terms of meeting notes to prepare for a call.

I just ask my Karel, member of team teleworking out of Tokyo, to begin drafting a note.

Claude

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER  
**Sent:** August 30, 2021 12:46 PM  
**To:** Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: Follow-up - ReconAfrica

Karel,

Une rencontre a été confirmé entre ReconAfrica et WGM pour le 22 septembre à 15h00.

Peux tu stp préparer note de rencontre pour la participation de Mala.

Stp communiquer avec Nyma à oWGM pour savoir si Mala a besoin d'un formation particulier.

Une fois que la note sera finalisé, nous consulterons les équipes pertinents à B-Branch, ainsi que JBURG et PRET-HOM.

Claude

**Duplicate of page 12-16. As agreed with requester, duplicate emails have been redacted**

Duplicate of page 12-16. As agreed with requester, duplicate emails have been redacted

Duplicate of page 12-16. As agreed with requester, duplicate emails have been redacted



Duplicate of page 12-16. As agreed with requester, duplicate emails have been redacted





## Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER

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**From:** Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD  
**Sent:** September 8, 2021 9:38 AM  
**To:** Nadeau, Catherine -PRMNY -GR; Gendron, Claude -WER; Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD  
**Cc:** Edwards, Allan -BBI; Anctil, Karel -WER  
**Subject:** RE: Recon Africa

@Catherine – let's do both – you can convey to Mr Adams the names of the UN Permanent Residents in Namibia and Botswana (as below) whenever you feel fit, and we'll do the same with our contacts at Recon Africa when we meet with them, which will be after the caretaker convention expires.

@Claude – JBURG is very happy to join the call with Mala (I think we simply assumed we'd be invited) and if it can work with PRET/HOM Cooter's schedule, then it makes sense for him to join to. I think on our side we'd be in listening mode. You could also add to Mala's brief to include the suggestion from PRMNY to get in touch with the UN Permanent Residents locally.

I think that might save JBURG from doing anything? 😊

Keith

---

**From:** Nadeau, Catherine -PRMNY -GR <Catherine.Nadeau@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 8, 2021 3:31 PM  
**To:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>; Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Edwards, Allan -BBI <Allan.Edwards@international.gc.ca>; Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD <Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca>; Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Recon Africa

Thanks everyone,

To confirm, we will respond to mr. Adams saying that our trade team in South Africa will be in contact shortly to follow-up. Does this work?

Merci,  
Catherine

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 8, 2021 8:56 AM  
**To:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Nadeau, Catherine -PRMNY -GR <Catherine.Nadeau@international.gc.ca>; Edwards, Allan -BBI <Allan.Edwards@international.gc.ca>; Koop, Barbara -PRMNY -GR <Barbara.Koop@international.gc.ca>; Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD <Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca>; Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Recon Africa

Will is responsible for government relations at Intuit. The firm seems to have been mandated by ReconAfrica to organize meetings with GAC officials. Will has been liaising with oDMT and oWGM on setting up a meeting in September with Mala and Recon.

On a separate note, I would suggest with have Chris, JBURG and Mala on the same call for the next call scheduled with ReconAfrica. oWGM has already scheduled the call. I can liaise with oWGM to see if they are ok extending the invitation to Chris and JBURG instead of doing 2 separate calls.

Claude

---

**From:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <[Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** September 8, 2021 5:36 AM  
**To:** Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD <[Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca](mailto:Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca)>; Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>; Nadeau, Catherine -PRMNY -GR <[Catherine.Nadeau@international.gc.ca](mailto:Catherine.Nadeau@international.gc.ca)>; Edwards, Allan -BBI <[Allan.Edwards@international.gc.ca](mailto:Allan.Edwards@international.gc.ca)>; Koop, Barbara -PRMNY -GR <[Barbara.Koop@international.gc.ca](mailto:Barbara.Koop@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Recon Africa

Hi Keith and Karel

@Karel, could you please confirm who Will Adams and Intuit Inc are?

I will add this suggestion about ReconAfrica meeting with the UN Permanent Residents in Namibia and Botswana to my meeting notes. My plan is to meet with ReconAfrica on 21/22 October during my proposed trip to Namibia.

Kind regards

JP

---

**From:** Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD <[Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca](mailto:Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** September 8, 2021 10:05 AM  
**To:** Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>; Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <[Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>; Nadeau, Catherine -PRMNY -GR <[Catherine.Nadeau@international.gc.ca](mailto:Catherine.Nadeau@international.gc.ca)>; Edwards, Allan -BBI <[Allan.Edwards@international.gc.ca](mailto:Allan.Edwards@international.gc.ca)>; Koop, Barbara -PRMNY -GR <[Barbara.Koop@international.gc.ca](mailto:Barbara.Koop@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Recon Africa

Thanks Karel, not a bad suggestion from Intuit following their meeting with PRMNY/Rae.

@JP – at your next meeting with ReconAfrica, can you please suggest to them that they reach out to the UN Permanent Residents in Namibia and Botswana (email addresses here: <https://data.uninfo.org/Home/LBRCList> Namibia = Sen Pang Botswana = Zia Choudhury following this suggestion from Ambassador Rae?

FYI I believe we're not scheduled to speak again with Recon Africa until after the caretaker convention expires / after the election.

Thanks  
Keith

---

**From:** Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** September 8, 2021 5:03 AM  
**To:** Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD <[Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca](mailto:Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>; Nadeau, Catherine -PRMNY -GR <[Catherine.Nadeau@international.gc.ca](mailto:Catherine.Nadeau@international.gc.ca)>; Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <[Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)>; Edwards, Allan -BBI <[Allan.Edwards@international.gc.ca](mailto:Allan.Edwards@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: Recon Africa

Hi Keith,


We (PRMNY ) have received the request below following the meeting between Recon Africa and PRMNY HOM Rae on August 25th.

Could JBURH follow up on this request from the client?

Pour info, le courriel des UN resident coordinators est disponible sur le site des Nations Unies.

Please note that we did not get a readout of the meeting as it was considered to be a personal meeting.

Thanks!

Karel Anctil  
Trade Commissioner | Délégué commercial  
Southern and Eastern Africa Bilateral Relations Division | Direction des relations bilatérales avec l'Afrique australe et de l'Est (WER)  
Email | Courriel : [karel.anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:karel.anctil@international.gc.ca)  
Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada  
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada  
 Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada

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**From:** Will Adams ·  
**Sent:** September 3, 2021 4:54 PM  
**To:** Koop, Barbara -PRMNY -GR <[Barbara.Koop@international.gc.ca](mailto:Barbara.Koop@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Recon Africa

Barbara,

Hope all is well with you.

Thanks again for your help in arranging meeting.

I was just hoping to follow up with you on our meeting with Ambassador Rae.

I thought it was a very helpful meeting.

The Ambassador recommended that Recon Africa reps engage with UN Resident coordinators In Namibia and Botswana. What would be the best way to follow up on this?

Also,

We are looking for a contact at International Development.  
Is there someone you could recommend we contact?

**Will Adams**  
Government Relations

INTUIT

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613.914.1584

## Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER

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**From:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD  
**Sent:** September 8, 2021 3:04 PM  
**To:** 'Diana McQueen'  
**Cc:** Gendron, Claude -WER; Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD; Anctil, Karel -WER  
**Subject:** Attendees on call with Assistant Deputy Minister, Mala Khanna

Dear Diana

I am just following up on behalf of the Office of the Assistant Deputy Minister, Mala Khanna, with regards to the planned meeting on 23 September. Could you please let us know who will be on the call from the ReconAfrica team?

Thank you  
Kind regards

### **JP van der Merwe**

Trade Commissioner | Délégué commercial  
High Commission of Canada, Trade Office | Haut-commissariat du Canada, Bureau commercial  
Email: [Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)  
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## Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER

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**From:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD  
**Sent:** September 8, 2021 3:28 PM  
**To:** Anctil, Karel -WER; Lalonde, Sarah -WGM; Bérubé, Jacinthe -WGM  
**Cc:** Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD; Gendron, Claude -WER  
**Subject:** RE: WGM meeting with ReconAfrica (September 22 - 15:00)

Dear Karel, Sarah and Jacinthe

Diana McQueen from ReconAfrica says the three people from ReconAfrica that will be on the call with the ADM will be:

Mr. Scot Evans, CEO,  
Mr. Craig Steinke, Founder  
Ms. Diana McQueen, VP – Communications and External relations

Thank you  
Kind regards

### JP van der Merwe

Trade Commissioner | Délégué commercial  
High Commission of Canada, Trade Office | Haut-commissariat du Canada, Bureau commercial  
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**From:** Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** September 8, 2021 6:55 AM  
**To:** Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD <[Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca](mailto:Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: WGM meeting with ReconAfrica (September 22 - 15:00)

Hi Keith,

We did our best to try to confirm locally who from Recon Africa will be on the call with WGM on September 22 (15:00) but, as you will see below, we have no idea.

Would it be possible for JBUR to get this information from Recon Africa while indicating you are following up on their request to PRMNY?

Thank you!

Karel Anctil  
Trade Commissioner | Délégué commercial  
Southern and Eastern Africa Bilateral Relations Division | Direction des relations bilatérales avec l'Afrique australe et de l'Est (WER)  
Email | Courriel : [karel.anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:karel.anctil@international.gc.ca)  
Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada  
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada  
 Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada

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**From:** Lalonde, Sarah -WGM <[Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca](mailto:Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** September 8, 2021 12:51 AM  
**To:** Bérubé, Jacinthe -WGM <[Jacinthe.Berube@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jacinthe.Berube@international.gc.ca)>; Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: WGM meeting with ReconAfrica (September 22 - 15:00)

Bonjour,

Nous n'avons pas de liste de participants,

Il faudrait demander au représentant de ReconAfrica pour voir s'il y en aura

*Sarah Lalonde*

Administrative Officer, Executive Services | Agente Administrative, Services Exécutifs  
Office of the Assistant Deputy Minister (WGM) | Bureau de la Sous-ministre adjointe (WGM)  
Sub-Saharan Africa Branch | Secteur de l'Afrique subsaharienne  
125 Sussex, Ottawa ON K1A 0G2  
Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada  
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

Telephone | Téléphone +1.613.290.7385  
[sarah.lalonde@international.gc.ca](mailto:sarah.lalonde@international.gc.ca)  
 Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada

---

**From:** Bérubé, Jacinthe -WGM <[Jacinthe.Berube@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jacinthe.Berube@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** September 7, 2021 11:27 AM  
**To:** Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>; Lalonde, Sarah -WGM <[Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca](mailto:Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: WGM meeting with ReconAfrica (September 22 - 15:00)

Bonjour Karel,



Je n'as pas la liste des participants, mais Sarah l'a peut-être puisqu'elle sait occupé de cette rencontre

Je n'as pas de template en particulier pour ce type de rencontre.

*Jacinthe Bérubé*

Executive Assistant to the Assistant Deputy Minister | Adjointe exécutive de la sous-ministre adjointe  
Sub-Saharan Africa Branch (WGM) | Secteur de l'Afrique subsaharienne (WGM)  
Téléphone cellulaire | Cellphone (343) 551-3565 (NEW)  
125 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0G2  
Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada  
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

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**From:** Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** September-02-21 9:47 PM  
**To:** Bérubé, Jacinthe -WGM <[Jacinthe.Berube@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jacinthe.Berube@international.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** WGM meeting with ReconAfrica (September 22 - 15:00)

Bonjour Jacinthe,

Je travaille présentement sur les notes en préparation de la rencontre entre WGM et ReconAfrica et je me demandais si la compagnie a partagé avec toi les noms des participants.

Prière de me les envoyés et, si ce n'est pas trop te demander, de m'envoyer aussi la template dans laquelle elle préfère recevoir ses documents de brefage pour ce genre de rencontres.

Merci beaucoup!

Karel Anctil  
Trade Commissioner | Délégué commercial  
Southern and Eastern Africa Bilateral Relations Division | Direction des relations bilatérales avec l'Afrique australe et de l'Est (WER)  
Email | Courriel : [karel.anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:karel.anctil@international.gc.ca)  
Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada  
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada  
 Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada

s.21(1)(a)

**Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER**

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**From:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD  
**Sent:** September 9, 2021 6:08 AM  
**To:** Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD  
**Subject:** RE: Follow-up - ReconAfrica

Hi Keith

You could maybe tell Karel and Claude that GAC members have outnumbered ReconAfrica on many of our calls – given the inclusion of you, me, Marcello, WER and BPA on almost every call. So from the perspective of ReconAfrica feeling outnumbered or intimidated, I don't think that should be an issue.

Not sure how Terrence Cowl has been involved but I would have also suggested Nicole Lunstead given she has the history with being involved on the ReconAfrica file.

From our office and PRET, I think we can have the HOM and Allan (to give him some exposure to ReconAfrica) and then either you or me (who have the history of being part of the previous calls).

Thanks  
JP

---

**From:** Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 9, 2021 10:49 AM  
**To:** Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD <Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** FW: Follow-up - ReconAfrica

Hi Keith,

Claude is looking for suggestions and justifications for the extra participants on or side at the meeting between WGM and Recon Africa.

I already highlighted the message from JP mentioning 3 participants on their side so I think we could have 3 plus WGM on our side.

Bases on Claude's suggest, we could go with :

- Cooter, Chris -PRET -HOM/CDM : Involved directly on a recurring basis with the company since negative media coverage of the company started last year.

- Cowl, Terrence –BPA: He is the Director responsible for RBC

-Claude or Allan or both?

I think it would make sense for Claude to be on he call but it could also be very useful for Allan.

What do you think?

Would you mind beefing up why Cooter should be on the call?

Merci!

Karel Anctil  
Trade Commissioner | Délégué commercial  
Southern and Eastern Africa Bilateral Relations Division | Direction des relations bilatérales avec l'Afrique australe et de l'Est (WER)  
Email | Courriel : [karel.anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:karel.anctil@international.gc.ca)  
Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada  
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** September 9, 2021 12:12 AM  
**To:** Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: Follow-up - ReconAfrica

Karel,

Peux tu me donner une mise à jour sur l'ébauche de la note de rencontre de Mala avec ReconAfrica. Il faudra consulter plusieurs collègues à la centrale et en mission. Je peux t'envoyer les noms. Nous avons du temps pour finaliser cette rencontre mais serait bien de pouvoir consulter ces gens lundi au plus tard. J'aimerais voir l'ébauche en fin de journée ce vendredi si possible.

Pour les participants, peux tu me fournir une liste de participants suggérés et une justification pour chacun. Je suggère que ce soit Chris Cooter et quelqu'un de l'équipe de Chris Moran en listening mode. Stp consulter Keith et Allan Edwards à JBURG sur les choix suggérés. Du côté de ReconAfrica, pour le moment, ce serait seulement l'ancienne ministre albertaine Diana McQueen donc on fera attention à ne pas ajouter trop de participants.

Claude

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER  
**Sent:** September 8, 2021 11:06 AM  
**To:** Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <[Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca](mailto:Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Richardson, Beth -WER <[Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca](mailto:Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca)>; Rymek, Michael -WED <[Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca](mailto:Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca)>; Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD <[Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca](mailto:Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca)>; Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <[Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)>; Bérubé, Jacinthe -WGM <[Jacinthe.Berube@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jacinthe.Berube@international.gc.ca)>; Lalonde, Sarah -WGM <[Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca](mailto:Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca)>; Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>; Bordeleau, Amélie -WWL <[Amelie.Bordeleau@international.gc.ca](mailto:Amelie.Bordeleau@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Follow-up - ReconAfrica

Mathilde,

Merci pour ton info.

A note is being prepared for Mala. We will aim at sending it to you by COB Sept 17.

We will also provide you with a list of recommended officials for this call.

Claude

---

**From:** Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <[Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca](mailto:Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** September 8, 2021 10:17 AM  
**To:** Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD <[Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca](mailto:Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca)>; Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <[Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)>; Bérubé, Jacinthe -WGM <[Jacinthe.Berube@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jacinthe.Berube@international.gc.ca)>; Lalonde, Sarah -WGM <[Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca](mailto:Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca)>; Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>; Richardson, Beth -WER <[Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca](mailto:Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca)>; Bordeleau, Amélie -WWL <[Amelie.Bordeleau@international.gc.ca](mailto:Amelie.Bordeleau@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Follow-up - ReconAfrica

Bonjour Claude,

Merci pour ton courriel.

Mala agrees that it makes sense to have officials on the line. Could we kindly request a list of recommended participants? At this time we only have one participant (Diana McQueen) on their end, so I think we would want to avoid outnumbering them too much.

Aussi, pour votre radar, Mala voudra avoir une note pour cette rencontre et un pre-brief. Croyez-vous possible de nous fournir une note d'ici COB vendredi le 17?

Merci!  
Mathilde

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** September 8, 2021 9:17 AM  
**To:** Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <[Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca](mailto:Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD <[Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca](mailto:Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca)>; Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <[Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)>; Bérubé, Jacinthe -WGM <[Jacinthe.Berube@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jacinthe.Berube@international.gc.ca)>; Lalonde, Sarah -WGM <[Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca](mailto:Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca)>; Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>; Richardson, Beth -WER <[Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca](mailto:Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: Follow-up - ReconAfrica

Mathilde,

I am writing to you about the meeting scheduled with Mala and ReconAfrica (at DMT's request). This meet was scheduled with the company for Sept 22 at 3 pm.

I would like to ask if we could extend an invitation to Chris Cooter and selected members of JBURG and WER to join this meeting. Chris and JBURG team have been organizing several meetings with WER and B-Branch (around 7 meetings so far) with the company and they were planning to organize another call after the election. Given the discussion may focus on their operations in Namibia, it would make sense to have one call with Mala, WER and Post unless oWGM believes it should be done separately. If oWGM agrees with the approach, it may be a good idea to get a signal check with the company on our proposed list of participants for the meeting.

If oWGM agrees to extend the invitation to PRET and JBURG, it may be of interest to organize the call earlier during the day given the time difference with South Africa.

Looping in Post colleagues for awareness.

Happy to discuss as needed.

Claude

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER  
**Sent:** August 30, 2021 12:44 PM  
**To:** Desmarteau, Andrea -DMT <[Andrea.Desmarteau@international.gc.ca](mailto:Andrea.Desmarteau@international.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Chagnon-Lampron, Genevieve -DMT <[Genevieve.Chagnon-Lampron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Genevieve.Chagnon-Lampron@international.gc.ca)>; Guttman, Tamara -WED <[Tamara.Guttman@international.gc.ca](mailto:Tamara.Guttman@international.gc.ca)>; Richardson, Beth -WER <[Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca](mailto:Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca)>; Malik, Nyma -WWD <[Nyma.Malik@international.gc.ca](mailto:Nyma.Malik@international.gc.ca)>; Rymek, Michael -WED <[Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca](mailto:Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca)>; Harvey, Marie-Claude -WGM <[Marie-Claude.Harvey@international.gc.ca](mailto:Marie-Claude.Harvey@international.gc.ca)>; Lalonde, Sarah -WGM <[Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca](mailto:Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca)>; Bérubé, Jacinthe -WGM <[Jacinthe.Berube@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jacinthe.Berube@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Follow-up - ReconAfrica

Andrea,

I would like to follow up to Geneviève's message below.

ReconAfrica has confirmed a meeting with WGM on Sept 22 at 3pm.

Regards,  
Claude

**Claude Gendron, CITP**

Deputy Director (Commercial relations) | Directeur adjoint (relations commerciales)

Southern and Eastern Africa Relations Division (WER) |

Direction des relations avec l'Afrique australe et de l'Est (WER)

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Cell.: 613.301.3508



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**Duplicate of page 12-16. As agreed with requester, duplicate emails have been redacted**



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## Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER

---

**From:** Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD  
**Sent:** September 9, 2021 6:44 AM  
**To:** Anctil, Karel -WER  
**Cc:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD; Gendron, Claude -WER  
**Subject:** RE: Follow-up - ReconAfrica

Hi Karel,

You're correct that JP has uncovered that RA will likely have 3 folks on their side. On previous calls, we have often had more people on our side – from JBURG, WER and BPA.

From our side, we'd suggest:

- PRET HOM Cooter – he's actively engaged on the file, and the company has in the past expressed appreciation that he has taken an active interest in their activities. HOM also sent a formal letter to the company, and the company has formally responded.
- BPA – we'd suggest Nicole Lunstead participate since she's also seen much of the history and participated in calls before; Terrence Cowl as well if needed, or if levels require
- JBURG – It would be good for Allan to participate (JP will be briefing him soon); JP for sure since he's the lead on this file; I'm probably the least important person to be on the call
- WER – both you and Claude should probably be there

@JP – Karel has been tasked to prepare the briefing note for Mala ahead of this meeting. Can you send him what briefs you have so that he doesn't need to start from scratch?

Hope that helps  
Keith

---

**From:** Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 9, 2021 10:49 AM  
**To:** Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD <Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** FW: Follow-up ReconAfrica

Hi Keith,

Claude is looking for suggestions and justifications for the extra participants on or side at the meeting between WGM and Recon Africa.

I already highlighted the message from JP mentioning 3 participants on their side so I think we could have 3 plus WGM on our side.

Bases on Claude's suggest, we could go with :

- Cooter, Chris -PRET -HOM/CDM : Involved directly on a recurring basis with the company since negative media coverage of the company started last year.
- Cowl, Terrence –BPA: He is the Director responsible for RBC

-Claude or Allan or both?

I think it would make sense for Claude to be on he call but it could also be very useful for Allan.

What do you think?

Would you mind beefing up why Cooter should be on the call?

Merci!

Karel Anctil

Trade Commissioner | Délégué commercial

Southern and Eastern Africa Bilateral Relations Division | Direction des relations bilatérales avec l'Afrique australe et de l'Est (WER)

Email | Courriel : [karel.anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:karel.anctil@international.gc.ca)

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**Duplicate of page 59-65. As agreed with requester, duplicate emails have been redacted**

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Duplicate of page 59-65. As agreed with requester, duplicate emails have been redacted



Duplicate of page 59-65. As agreed with requester, duplicate emails have been redacted



## Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER  
**Sent:** September 10, 2021 3:15 PM  
**To:** Lalonde, Sarah -WGM  
**Cc:** Bordeleau, Amélie -WWL; Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM; Anctil, Karel -WER; Bérubé, Jacinthe -WGM; Rymek, Michael -WED  
**Subject:** RE: \*EXT\*Attendees on call with Assistant Deputy Minister, Mala Khanna

Sarah,  
Je suggérerais d'attendre pour le moment.  
Nous sommes en train de finaliser la note de rencontre pour Mala.  
Si jamais nous avons besoin d'effectuer des ajouts compte tenu du powerpoint, nous pourrions le faire en temps opportun.  
Claude

---

**From:** Lalonde, Sarah -WGM <Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 10, 2021 2:48 PM  
**To:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>; Bérubé, Jacinthe -WGM <Jacinthe.Berube@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Bordeleau, Amélie -WWL <Amelie.Bordeleau@international.gc.ca>; Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca>; Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: \*EXT\*Attendees on call with Assistant Deputy Minister, Mala Khanna

Salut Claude,

Non, nous n'avons rien reçu, penses-tu qu'on devrait en demander?

*Sarah Lalonde*

Administrative Officer, Executive Services | Agente Administrative, Services Exécutifs  
Office of the Assistant Deputy Minister (WGM) | Bureau de la Sous-ministre adjointe (WGM)  
Sub-Saharan Africa Branch | Secteur de l'Afrique subsaharienne  
125 Sussex, Ottawa ON K1A 0G2  
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Telephone | Téléphone +1.613.290.7385

[sarah.lalonde@international.gc.ca](mailto:sarah.lalonde@international.gc.ca)



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Canada

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 10, 2021 2:37 PM  
**To:** Bérubé, Jacinthe -WGM <Jacinthe.Berube@international.gc.ca>; Lalonde, Sarah -WGM <Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca>

**Cc:** Bordeleau, Amélie -WWL <[Amelie.Bordeleau@international.gc.ca](mailto:Amelie.Bordeleau@international.gc.ca)>; Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <[Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca](mailto:Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca)>; Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** FW: \*EXT\*Attendees on call with Assistant Deputy Minister, Mala Khanna

Jacinthe et Sarah,

Avez-vous reçu un powerpoint de la part de ReconAfrica en vue de la rencontre organisée avec eux en fin septembre ?

Claude

---

**From:** Diana McQueen <[diana.mcqueen@ReconAfrica.com](mailto:diana.mcqueen@ReconAfrica.com)>

**Sent:** September 8, 2021 3:14 PM

**To:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <[Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)>

**Cc:** Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>; Diana McQueen <[diana.mcqueen@ReconAfrica.com](mailto:diana.mcqueen@ReconAfrica.com)>; Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD <[Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca](mailto:Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca)>; Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** Re: \*EXT\*Attendees on call with Assistant Deputy Minister, Mala Khanna

Hello Jan

From our team will be our CEO Scot Evans, Founder Craig Steinke and myself.

We will send a powerpoint to ADM Khanna and will make sure you get a copy as well. It's basically an opportunity for us to share who ReconAfrica is and what we are doing in Namibia & Botswana, and the Canadian companies we are working with. All of the information will be information we have shared in the past with your team in South Africa.

Hope this is helpful, but please let me know if you need anything.

Thanks so much,

Diana

On Sep 8, 2021, at 1:03 PM, [Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca) wrote:

Dear Diana

I am just following up on behalf of the Office of the Assistant Deputy Minister, Mala Khanna, with regards to the planned meeting on 23 September. Could you please let us know who will be on the call from the ReconAfrica team?

Thank you

Kind regards

**JP van der Merwe**

Trade Commissioner | Délégué commercial

High Commission of Canada, Trade Office | Haut-commissariat du Canada, Bureau commercial

Email: [Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)

Tel: +27 11 442 3130

M: +27 60 929 4983

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Attachments can be found at pages 17-42

## Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER

---

**From:** Rormose, Lilly -JBURG -TD  
**Sent:** September 13, 2021 2:21 AM  
**To:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD  
**Subject:** FW: WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica  
**Attachments:** NatGeo Okavango.pdf; ReconAfrica Globe and Mail May 29th.pdf; IB\_LBP-#14971665-v1-WGM Call Note - WGM and ReconAfrica - September 22 2021\_rev CG.docx

Hi JP

No doubt you have received this is already and are aware the call with ReconAfrica is now on 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept (not 23<sup>rd</sup>) at 3:00pm – but just in case you haven't ...

I still don't see a meeting invite yet in your calendar though. I guess this will come through eventually.

Thanks  
Lilly

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 13, 2021 2:14 AM  
**To:** Rormose, Lilly -JBURG -TD <Lilly.Rormose@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** FW: WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica

WGM call is scheduled for Sept 22

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER  
**Sent:** September 10, 2021 4:21 PM  
**To:** Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Brown, Danika -WER <Danika.Brown@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica

Karel,

Tu trouveras ci-joint mes changements et commentaires pour la note de rencontre que tu as préparé pour Mala (sauvegardés en track/changes).

Stp préparer les notices biographiques pour les 3 participants de ReconAfrica.

Stp consulter JBURG et BPA/Lundstead, au besoin, sur les points laisser en suspens.

Une fois que tu as la note finalisé, stp me transmettre avec le transmittal slip électronique (bordereau de transmission) afin que je le transmette dans la chaîne d'approbation.

Merci !!  
Claude

## Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER

---

**From:** Edwards, Margot -BPA  
**Sent:** September 13, 2021 7:41 AM  
**To:** Lunstead, Nicole -BPA; Anctil, Karel -WER  
**Cc:** St-Laurent, Carl -BPA; Cowl, Terrence -BPA; Smith, Nicolaas -BPA; Jacques, Jasmine -BPA  
**Subject:** Re: WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica

Colleagues,

The NCP has not received a complaint regarding Recon Africa. Several months ago we were copied on a complaint sent to the CORE and invited the notifier to reach out to the NCP, he never did.

Margot

Sent from my iPhone

> On Sep 13, 2021, at 7:09 AM, Lunstead, Nicole -BPA <Nicole.Lunstead@international.gc.ca> wrote:  
>  
> Hi Carl,  
>  
> Recon is a specific company issue we are following. Nic has been our lead on the file, but is on leave this week. Can I ask you to review this or lead on the reply for BPA? , and I'd also like to loop you into the exchange below, so they start coming to you in the future. I'll have a quick look as well in case there is CORE content or other items that touch on policy work ie the strategy.  
>  
> I believe Nic previously shared background on this case with you. Although i think the note provides a good overview too.  
>  
> Margot also to note NCP question below, which I believe is a no.  
>  
> Sent from my iPhone  
>  
> Begin forwarded message:  
>  
> From: "Anctil, Karel -WER" <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>  
> Date: September 13, 2021 at 4:58:17 AM EDT  
> To: "Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD" <Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca>,  
> "Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD" <Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca>,  
> "Lunstead, Nicole -BPA" <Nicole.Lunstead@international.gc.ca>  
> Cc: "Gendron, Claude -WER" <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>,  
> "Edwards, Allan -BBI" <Allan.Edwards@international.gc.ca>  
> Subject: FW: WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica  
>  
> Colleagues,  
>  
> Please see the attached draft note for WGM call with Recon Africa on September 22 at 14:00.  
>  
> I tried to strike balance between the mountain of information that was provided to me and what could be useful to WGM during this call.

>  
> I have addressed most of Claude's initial comments but I would your feedback on specific items.  
>  
> Nicole: - Could you please confirm that NPC still has not received any request for review?  
> -Key messages are a reduced version of answers prepared by your group for oDMT back in July. Could you please review/update?  
>  
> JBURG:-Please confirm ReconAfrica's rationale for requesting a meeting with DMT this summer? I have loads of information but not why they requested this meeting.  
> -Any employees in Botswana? My understanding is that they have exploration rights in Botswana but they still have not started any operations in the country.  
> -The last paragraph of the note (took it from an older brief) is really critical and I wonder if our view on their activities has changed lately. Views? Suggestions?  
>  
> Of course, your comments on other sections of the document are also welcomed.  
>  
> Please send me your comments before the end of the day today.  
>  
> Cheers!  
>  
>  
> Karel Anctil  
> Trade Commissioner | Délégué commercial Southern and Eastern Africa  
> Bilateral Relations Division | Direction des relations bilatérales  
> avec l'Afrique australe et de l'Est (WER) Email | Courriel :  
> karel.anctil@international.gc.ca<mailto:karel.anctil@international.gc.ca>  
> ca> Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada Government of  
> Canada | Gouvernement du Canada [X]  
>  
> From: Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
> Sent: September 11, 2021 5:22 AM  
> To: Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>  
> Cc: Brown, Danika -WER <Danika.Brown@international.gc.ca>  
> Subject: WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica  
>  
>  
> Karel,  
>  
> Tu trouveras ci-joint mes changements et commentaires pour la note de rencontre que tu as préparé pour Mala (sauvegardés en track/changes).  
>  
> Stp préparer les notices biographiques pour les 3 participants de ReconAfrica.  
>  
> Stp consulter JBURG et BPA/Lundstead, au besoin, sur les points laissés en suspens.  
> Une fois que tu as la note finalisé, stp me transmettre avec le transmittal slip électronique (bordereau de transmission) afin que je le transmette dans la chaîne d'approbation.  
>  
> Merci !!  
> Claude  
>  
>  
> <NatGeo Okavango.pdf>



## Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER  
**Sent:** September 15, 2021 8:40 AM  
**To:** Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD  
**Cc:** Edwards, Allan -BBI; Brown, Kirin -PRET -IM; Anctil, Karel -WER; Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD  
**Subject:** RE: WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica

Good point Keith.  
Would be good for Mala to understand what triggered this meeting.  
Claude

---

**From:** Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD <Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 15, 2021 4:09 AM  
**To:** Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>; Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>; Edwards, Allan -BBI <Allan.Edwards@international.gc.ca>; Brown, Kirin -PRET -IM <Kirin.Brown@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** FW: WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica

Looping in JP who is our lead on the ReconAfrica file, and all things Oil & Gas and Mining.

@JP – could you please reply to Karel / Claude regarding why ReconAfrica have requested this meeting? If I remember correctly, on one of our calls, we actually suggested to them that they could engage with our senior folks everywhere to help set the record straight, but I stand to be corrected.

Thanks  
Keith

---

**From:** Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 15, 2021 4:37 AM  
**To:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Brown, Danika -WER <Danika.Brown@international.gc.ca>; Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD <Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica

Bonjour Claude,

Voici la note pour la rencontre de WGM avec Recon Africa.

At this point, have received feedback from BPA but not from JBURG.

The two items left to attend/answer (unless JBURG wants to address something else) are why they requested a meeting with DMT and if they have employees in Botswana.

Like I said in a previous email, I have a lot of information but not their initial contact with oDMT requesting a meeting and why.

Regarding number of employees on Botswana, there is no public information I could find on this topic. But Recon Africa, while they have exploration rights in the country, mentioned in a press release that they were still working at assessing the Namibia side of the project and that they had not move to exploration works in Botswana.

So, maybe o.k to just mention the Namibia numbers.

| <b>WGM Approval Form</b> |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Request from             | WER  |
| Due date                 | For information/preparation call with ReconAfrica, September 22  |
| Drafted by               | WER/Ancil, updated WER/Gendron   |
| Consulted with           | WER, JBURG, BPA  |
| Approved by              | WER/Richardson, WED/Guttman  |
| Object                   | Background information and messaging in preparation for a meeting with ReconAfrica; a junior mining Canadian company active in Namibia that received a lot of media scrutiny in the spring and summer of 2021. |

-----  
 Karel Ancil  
 Trade Commissioner | Délégué commercial  
 Southern and Eastern Africa Bilateral Relations Division | Direction des relations bilatérales avec l'Afrique australe et de l'Est (WER)  
 Email | Courriel : [karel.ancil@international.gc.ca](mailto:karel.ancil@international.gc.ca)  
 Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada  
 Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** September 11, 2021 5:22 AM  
**To:** Ancil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Ancil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Ancil@international.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Brown, Danika -WER <[Danika.Brown@international.gc.ca](mailto:Danika.Brown@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica

Karel,

Tu trouveras ci-joint mes changements et commentaires pour la note de rencontre que tu as préparé pour Mala (sauvegardés en track/changes).

Stp préparer les notices biographiques pour les 3 participants de ReconAfrica.

Stp consulter JBURG et BPA/Lundstead, au besoin, sur les points laisser en suspens.

Une fois que tu as la note finalisé, stp me transmettre avec le transmittal slip électronique (bordereau de transmission) afin que je le transmette dans la chaîne d'approbation.

Merci !!

Claude

**Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER**

---

**From:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD  
**Sent:** September 15, 2021 6:12 AM  
**To:** Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD; Anctil, Karel -WER  
**Cc:** Gendron, Claude -WER; Edwards, Allan -BBI; Brown, Danika -WER  
**Subject:** RE: WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica

Hi all

I have the following comments and inputs:

- With regards to the reason for their request for this meeting: I think it is mostly as a result of them hiring new PR consultants during the course of 2021, who I assume have identified engagements with senior government officials as an important part of the company's PR strategy. They have tried to set up numerous meetings as far as we've been following – including AMB Rae, oMINT, as well as apparently some US Senators. When founder, Craig Steinke asked us on our call on 17 June, how they could get support from the Canadian government – our response was that they could send us through what requests they had in mind and that we could then evaluate those requests. They never sent through a list of requests.
- With regards to ReconAfrica in Botswana, they have a subsidiary there, known as Reconnaissance Energy Botswana PTY Ltd but its not 100% clear if they have a team there at all. I don't think so. As alluded to in Karel's note, they have an exploration license there but haven't started actual drilling operations there. Here is bullet point on their operations in Botswana from the call with ReconAfrica on 17 June
  - *Reconnaissance Energy Botswana PTY Ltd consultation and engagement - presentations made by our technical and stakeholder team members, in the licence area, to and with the Hon. Minister Lefoko Moagi, Ministry of Mineral Resources, Green Technology and Energy Security (MMGE) and the Director of Mines from Botswana. The Botswana MMGE team was joined by REB representatives, in the licence area, for engagement and consultation sessions with key stakeholders in the region including the Kgotla surrounding the lease area, representatives from the Communal Land Board, Department of Wildlife and Department of Forestry and Range Resources, the Parliamentary Representative from area and the District Commissioner.*  
<https://www.facebook.com/mmqebotswana/>
- The Botswana government have also shown support for the ReconAfrica project thus far and have looked to allay fears about compliance with environmental laws and not encroaching on the Okavango Delta
  - <https://www.business-humanrights.org/fr/derni%C3%A8res-actualit%C3%A9s/botswana-govt-defends-awarding-of-4-year-exploration-license-on-gas-and-oil-despite-concerns-around-the-region/>
  - <https://allafrica.com/stories/202105280461.html>
- I think its important in the ADM's note to differentiate between: Compliance / consultation / CSR (I have one subjective comment in my 2<sup>nd</sup> bullet point below but I think this is necessary)
  - There has thus far been no clear indication that ReconAfrica have not complied with any Namibian or Botswana law or regulation
  - ReconAfrica have been good on CSR, contributing money towards the Covid-19 relief fund in Namibia and committing to be a net-zero emitter
- I think we should just make it explicit that the Okavango Delta is a UNESCO World Heritage Site (this is one of the reasons this such a controversial area for a oil & gas company to be operating near to) – the claim from

ReconAfrica and the Namibian and Botswana governments are that the exploration sites don't fall into this area but environmentalists suggest the drilling could still have a detrimental effect

Thank you  
Kind regards  
JP

---

**From:** Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD <Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 15, 2021 10:09 AM  
**To:** Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>; Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>; Edwards, Allan -BBI <Allan.Edwards@international.gc.ca>; Brown, Kirin -PRET -IM <Kirin.Brown@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** FW: WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica

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@JP – could you please reply to Karel / Claude regarding why ReconAfrica have requested this meeting? If I remember correctly, on one of our calls, we actually suggested to them that they could engage with our senior folks everywhere to help set the record straight, but I stand to be corrected.

Thanks  
Keith

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**From:** Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 15, 2021 4:37 AM  
**To:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Brown, Danika -WER <Danika.Brown@international.gc.ca>; Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD <Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica

Bonjour Claude,

Voici la note pour la rencontre de WGM avec Recon Africa.

At this point, have received feedback from BPA but not from JBURG.

The two items left to attend/answer (unless JBURG wants to address something else) are why they requested a meeting with DMT and if they have employees in Botswana.

Like I said in a previous email, I have a lot of information but not their initial contact with oDMT requesting a meeting and why.

Regarding number of employees on Botswana, there is no public information I could find on this topic. But Recon Africa, while they have exploration rights in the country, mentioned in a press release that they were still working at assessing the Namibia side of the project and that they had not move to exploration works in Botswana.

So, maybe o.k to just mention the Namibia numbers.

---

| <b>WGM Approval Form</b> |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Request from             | WER  |
| Due date                 | For information/preparation call with ReconAfrica, September 22  |
| Drafted by               | WER/Anctil, updated WER/Gendron  |
| Consulted with           | WER, JBURG, BPA  |
| Approved by              | WER/Richardson, WED/Guttman  |
| Object                   | Background information and messaging in preparation for a meeting with ReconAfrica; a junior mining Canadian company active in Namibia that received a lot of media scrutiny in the spring and summer of 2021. |

-----  
Karel Anctil  
Trade Commissioner | Délégué commercial  
Southern and Eastern Africa Bilateral Relations Division | Direction des relations bilatérales avec l'Afrique australe et de l'Est (WER)  
Email | Courriel : [karel.anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:karel.anctil@international.gc.ca)  
Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada  
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

-----  
**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** September 11, 2021 5:22 AM  
**To:** Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Brown, Danika -WER <[Danika.Brown@international.gc.ca](mailto:Danika.Brown@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica

Karel,

Tu trouveras ci-joint mes changements et commentaires pour la note de rencontre que tu as préparé pour Mala (sauvegardés en track/changes).

Stp préparer les notices biographiques pour les 3 participants de ReconAfrica.

Stp consulter JBURG et BPA/Lundstead, au besoin, sur les points laisser en suspens.

Une fois que tu as la note finalisé, stp me transmettre avec le transmittal slip électronique (bordereau de transmission) afin que je le transmette dans la chaîne d'approbation.

Merci !!  
Claude



## **Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER**

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER  
**Sent:** September 16, 2021 11:10 AM  
**To:** Bérubé, Jacinthe -WGM  
**Cc:** Rymek, Michael -WED  
**Subject:** Question prep meeting pour rencontre de Mala avec ReconAfrica

Jacinthe,

Je veux inviter JBURG à participer au prep meeting. Avec le décalage horaire, avons-nous une possibilité de dépalcer la rencontre avec Mala plus tôt en journée ?

Claude



## Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER  
**Sent:** September 16, 2021 2:23 PM  
**To:** St-Laurent, Carl -BPA; Anctil, Karel -WER  
**Subject:** RE: WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica

Just responded via a separate message

---

**From:** St-Laurent, Carl -BPA <Carl.St-Laurent@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 16, 2021 2:18 PM  
**To:** Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica

Hi Karel,


I saw a pre-briefing invitation for this meeting on Sept 23.  
Grateful if you could let me know if meeting date has changed (originally Sept 22).  
If you could share final briefing note, even better.

Thanks  
Carl

---

**From:** Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 14, 2021 9:36 PM  
**To:** St-Laurent, Carl -BPA <Carl.St-Laurent@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica

Merci!

Karel Anctil  
Trade Commissioner | Délégué commercial  
Southern and Eastern Africa Bilateral Relations Division | Direction des relations bilatérales avec l'Afrique australe et de l'Est (WER)  
Email | Courriel : [karel.anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:karel.anctil@international.gc.ca)  
Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada  
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada  
 Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada

---

**From:** St-Laurent, Carl -BPA <Carl.St-Laurent@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 14, 2021 6:46 AM  
**To:** Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Cowl, Terrence -BPA <Terrence.Cowl@international.gc.ca>; Lunstead, Nicole -BPA <Nicole.Lunstead@international.gc.ca>; Smith, Nicolaas -BPA <Nicolaas.Smith2@international.gc.ca>; Bouffard, Jennifer -BPA <Jennifer.Bouffard@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** FW: WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica

Hello Karel,

Please see below suggested edits to context and assessment sections:

- The NCP has met with the company to provide Responsible Business Conduct (RBC) guidance and has not received a request for review to date.
- In last call with ReconAfrica, organized by JBURG on July 8, ReconAfrica indicated plan to release an updated ESG plan in early August. We look forward to learn more on this ESG plan and hope that it will substantively address opposition to oil exploration activities in Namibia and Botswana and include proactive communication with stakeholders.
- 

Thanks,  
Carl

Approved: BPA/Cowl  
Consulted: BPA/Lunstead

**From:** "Anctil, Karel -WER" <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>  
**Date:** September 13, 2021 at 4:58:17 AM EDT  
**To:** "Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD" <[Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca](mailto:Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca)>, "Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD" <[Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)>, "Lunstead, Nicole -BPA" <[Nicole.Lunstead@international.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Lunstead@international.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** "Gendron, Claude -WER" <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>, "Edwards, Allan -BBI" <[Allan.Edwards@international.gc.ca](mailto:Allan.Edwards@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject: FW: WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica**

Colleagues,

Please see the attached draft note for WGM call with Recon Africa on September 22 at 14:00.

I tried to strike balance between the mountain of information that was provided to me and what could be useful to WGM during this call.

I have addressed most of Claude's initial comments but I would your feedback on specific items.

Nicole: - Could you please confirm that NPC still has not received any request for review?  
 -Key messages are a reduced version of answers prepared by your group for oDMT back in July.  
 Could you please review/update?

JBURG:-Please confirm ReconAfrica's rational for requesting a meeting with DMT this summer? I have loads of information but not why they requested this meeting.  
 -Any employees in Botswana? My understanding is that they have exploration rights in Botswana but they still have not started any operations in the country.  
 -The last paragraph of the note (took it from an older brief) is really critical and I wonder if our view on their activities has changed lately. Views? Suggestions?

Of course, your comments on other sections of the document are also welcomed.

Please send me your comments before the end of the day today.

Cheers!

Karel Anctil

Trade Commissioner | Délégué commercial

Southern and Eastern Africa Bilateral Relations Division | Direction des relations bilatérales avec l'Afrique australe et de l'Est (WER)

Email | Courriel : [karel.anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:karel.anctil@international.gc.ca) <mailto:karel.anctil@international.gc.ca>

Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada

Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

[X]

From: Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>

Sent: September 11, 2021 5:22 AM

To: Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>

Cc: Brown, Danika -WER <[Danika.Brown@international.gc.ca](mailto:Danika.Brown@international.gc.ca)>

Subject: WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica

Karel,

Tu trouveras ci-joint mes changements et commentaires pour la note de rencontre que tu as préparé pour Mala (sauvegardés en track/changes).

Stp préparer les notices biographiques pour les 3 participants de ReconAfrica.

Stp consulter JBURG et BPA/Lundstead, au besoin, sur les points laisser en suspens.

Une fois que tu as la note finalisé, stp me transmettre avec le transmittal slip électronique (bordereau de transmission) afin que je le transmette dans la chaîne d'approbation.

Merci !!

Claude

**Richardson, Beth -WER**

---

**From:** Richardson, Beth -WER  
**Sent:** September 17, 2021 1:54 PM  
**To:** Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM; Bordeleau, Amélie -WWL  
**Cc:** Rymek, Michael -WED; Gendron, Claude -WER; Anctil, Karel -WER  
**Subject:** FOR WGM USE - WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica  
**Attachments:** WGM Meeting note - Call with ReconAfrica updated 16-09-2021.docx

| <b>WGM Approval Form</b> |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Request from             | WGM   |
| Due date                 | COB, September 20   |
| Drafted by               | WER/Anctil  |
| Consulted with           | WER, JBURG, BPA   |
| Approved by              | WED/Guttman   |
| Object                   | Meeting note for WGM call with ReconAfrica on Sept. 23 at 2 pm.   |
| Comments                 | <p>ReconAfrica is a Vancouver-based junior mining company that has received a lot of media attention in the spring and summer of 2021 for their operations in Namibia. Attached are relevant information about this file (National Geographic and Globe &amp; Mail articles).</p> <p><b>Please note a pre-meeting briefing has been scheduled with WGM on September 23 at 10:30AM. HC Cooter will attend, as well as STC Alan Edwards and Claude Gendron.</b></p> |



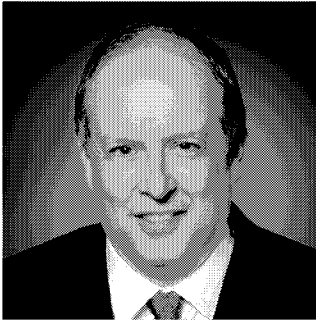
## WGM Call with ReconAfrica Senior Management

**\*\*\*There will be a preparatory briefing with HC Cooter at 10:30AM on September 23<sup>rd</sup>.\*\*\***

September 23, 2021, 02:00 PM

### Biography

#### Mr. Scot Evans, CEO



- Combined 35 years of experience with Exxon, Halliburton, and ReconAfrica and responsible for leading the company in its exploration and development of the Kavango Basin. In November 2019, he retired from Halliburton as Vice President, Integrated Asset Management (IAM) and Technical Consulting. He is an active member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG) and the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE), and a Trustee of the American Geoscience Institute.

#### Mr. Craig Steinke, Founder



- Founder of ReconAfrica and entrepreneur who has been the head of a multitude of oil and gas related companies. Member of The Association of International Petroleum Negotiators. Mr. Steinke received an undergraduate degree from The California State University.

#### Ms. Diana McQueen, VP – Communications and External relations



- Independent Director at MEG Energy Corp. and Senior Vice President-Corporate Communications at ReconAfrica. She has held various Alberta provincial cabinet roles including Minister of Energy, Minister of Environment & Water, Minister of Environment & Sustainable Resource Development/Forestry and Climate Change, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Government House leader, and member of numerous committees such as Treasury Board, and Agenda & Priorities.

### Agenda (TBC)

- Introduction of ReconAfrica

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- Update on ReconAfrica operations in Namibia & Botswana (PowerPoint presentation)
- Summary of previous engagement with Post

## Key Messages

- Canadian companies with good responsible business conduct can bring positive benefits to the communities where they are active and this can likely translate into improved work relations.
- The Government of Canada is committed to maintaining close communication with ReconAfrica about their project in Namibia.
- Canada expects Canadian companies active abroad to respect human rights, to operate transparently and in consultation with host governments and local communities, and to work in a socially and environmentally responsible manner, while respecting applicable laws.
- We look forward to learn more on your Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) plan and hope that it will substantively address opposition to oil exploration activities in Namibia and Botswana and include proactive communication with stakeholders.

## Objectives

- Follow-up on latest ReconAfrica exploration activities in northeast Namibia and northwest Botswana, known as the Kavango Basin.
- Confirm latest engagement with local stakeholders (government and civil society).
- Enquire about ReconAfrican short and medium-term objectives as they relate to local stakeholder's engagement.

## Context

- This meeting was initially requested by Vancouver-based Reconnaissance Energy Africa Ltd. ("ReconAfrica"). The founder of the company, Mr. Steinke, expressed interest in getting the support of the Canadian government and sought a meeting with DMT. oDMT's decision on call with ReconAfrica was to delegate the call to you. PRET-HOM/Cooter, JBURG/Van Der Merwe, BPA/St-Laurent, and WER/Gendron will be with you on this call.
- Within the past year, ReconAfrica has been widely condemned for engaging in the exploration and development of oil and gas in northeast Namibia and northwest Botswana, known as the Kavango Basin situated upstream to the Okavango Delta, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- ReconAfrica, the Namibian and Botswana governments claim that the exploration sites don't fall into this area but environmentalists suggest the drilling could still have a detrimental effect on



the World Heritage Site.

- The company faced little scrutiny in 2020 when it obtained its exploration license. However, local stakeholders began to raise their concerns in early 2021. In May 2021, the story became public due to the National Geographic and the Globe and Mail respectively publishing May 21 and May 29 articles regarding the impact of ReconAfrica's operations on local communities' water resources as well as the endangered wildlife in the Kavango Basin. Since then, ReconAfrica has faced a bevy of local, regional, Canadian and international criticism and concerns centered around environmental protection and sustainability. There are no allegations of human rights abuses. The National Contact Point (NCP) has met with the company to provide Responsible Business Conduct (RBC) guidance and has not received a request for review to date. During the last call with ReconAfrica, organized by JBURG on July 8, ReconAfrica indicated plan to release an updated ESG plan in early August.
- Canada's National Contact Point (NCP) is a committee formed by seven member departments and chaired by Global Affairs Canada (GAC), with Natural Resources Canada as the vice-chair. The role of the NCP is to promote awareness of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Guidelines (OECD) for Multinational Enterprises (MNEs) as they relate to the social, economic and environmental impacts of enterprises' activities on the societies in which they work. The NCP also offers a forum for discussion and assists the business community, employee organizations and other concerned parties, to contribute to the resolution of issues that arise relating to the implementation of the Guidelines in specific instances through dialogue-facilitation.
- Protests have notably occurred at Canadian missions in Berlin, London and Pretoria and complaints were submitted to U.S. and B.C. securities regulators, alleging the company has engaged in deceptive stock promotion and inadequate disclosures. A number of online petitions against ReconAfrica's project are in circulation and have been signed by over 300,000 people. ReconAfrica is well aware of the negative social media attention. The company has adopted a proactive communications strategy and hired three PR firms to assist, but challenges remain.
- Since December 2020, ReconAfrica has held eight meetings with Government of Canada interlocutors across different departments (JBURG, WER and B-Branch) and, most recently, with PRMNY/HOM/Rae on August 25.
- The majority of these meetings have been with PRET and JBURG, both of which are accredited to Namibia. They have provided ReconAfrica with trade commissioner services and JBURG has played a monitoring and advisory role with regards to this issue. There were no requests for additional TCS support during the last formal interaction with the company on July 8<sup>th</sup> when the company confirmed plans to continue exploratory drilling and seismic testing in Namibia.
- On March 9, 2021, The High Commissioner of Canada to South Africa sent the company a letter emphasizing the Government of Canada's expectations with respect to RBC and that Canadian companies were expected to comply with local laws and Canadian laws that cover doing business internationally (including the Corruption of Foreign Public Officials Act

UNCLASSIFIED



(CFPOA). The Chair of the National Contact Point for RBC also held a meeting with the company to underscore Canada's expectations in this regard.

- JBURG also made the suggestions to ReconAfrica to consult with Canadian Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) experts such as Mr. Jeffrey Davidson (Canada's former Extractive Sector CSR Counsellor) on best practices around stakeholder engagement.
- During the meeting requested by ReconAfrica with PRMNY/HOM/Rae, the Ambassador recommended that ReconAfrica reps engage with UN Resident coordinators in Namibia and Botswana. JBURG and PRMNY followed up with relevant contacts.
- It is important to note that, on September 9<sup>th</sup>, the International Union for Conservation of Nature put forward a motion to protect the Okavango Delta from oil and gas exploitation but no company name is mentioned.
- PRET/HOM has confirmed that the company has the full support of the Namibian government for this project. The Economic Adviser to Namibian President Hage Geingob, Mr. James Mnyupe, said in his meeting with PRET/HOM in June 2021 that the Namibia government is supportive of the project. He also conveyed that the Namibian government is keen to see if there are resources to be exploited and from there, they can best determine if and how they could do this responsibly.
- ReconAfrica made a donation of 15 million Namibian dollars (approx. CAD \$1.26M) towards the Namibian government's Covid-19 crisis management roll-out. The funds will be utilized for the procurement of vaccines and other urgent health related equipment for the fight against Covid-19 in Namibia.
- In an effort to address environmental concerns, ReconAfrica is committing to becoming a net zero emitter and is planning to contribute CAD \$10 million towards net zero commitments. The company is in the process of hiring a consultancy firm that would assist it in achieving its Net Zero (carbon) targets.
- In addition to the four community water wells ReconAfrica has drilled thus far, working with the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform and Governors offices of east and west Kavango, the Company has permitted an additional 20 community water wells. Of the 20 permitted water wells, eight locations have been selected. The budget for the drilling and completion of the initial eight of 20 community water wells is  
    . All community water wells will be solar powered and the company has now hired Namibian contractors to install equipment and it is expected they will commence operations on the first wells in early September.
- The company currently employs over 300 Namibian residents.
- In Botswana, the company has a subsidiary known as Reconnaissance Energy Botswana PTY Ltd. They have an exploration license in the country but haven't started drilling operations. The Botswana government supports the ReconAfrica project.





## **WER/JBURG/PRET assessment of the situation**

- National governments hold the authority and responsibility to manage natural resource decisions and management on their sovereign territory. The governments of Namibia and Botswana have licenses ReconAfrica's operations and voiced their support directly to Government of Canada officials.
- Canada has a strong and positive relationship with Namibia and Botswana, centered around strong commercial ties, notably in the mining sector.
- Other Canadian companies currently operating in the region have shown exemplary leadership in establishing corporate social responsibility initiatives to contribute to the development of local communities, as well as green initiatives to reduce their environmental footprint.
- There is no indication that ReconAfrica has not complied with any Namibian or Botswana law or regulation. With the exception of the securities complaints noted above, there are no known official complaints regarding their company operations in Africa to the Governments of Namibia, Botswana or Canada.

**Richardson, Beth -WER**

---

**From:** Richardson, Beth -WER  
**Sent:** September 17, 2021 2:00 PM  
**To:** Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM; Bordeleau, Amélie -WWL  
**Cc:** Rymek, Michael -WED; Gendron, Claude -WER; Anctil, Karel -WER  
**Subject:** RE: FOR WGM USE - WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica

Hi Mathilde, I wasn't invited so I don't know what's on the invite but at a bare minimum Claude should be on the call as notetaker. I agree we should offer to HC Cooter to attend – if he is not available, I would like to join the call.

Thank you,  
 Beth

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**From:** Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 17, 2021 1:57 PM  
**To:** Richardson, Beth -WER <Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca>; Bordeleau, Amélie -WWL <Amelie.Bordeleau@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Rymek, Michael -WED <Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca>; Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>; Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: FOR WGM USE - WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica

Merci beaucoup!

I understand there will be 3 rep from the company on the line – would you agree that, in addition to Mala, we recommend HOM Cooter and an additional note taker (from mission or HQ, up to you)? I am aware that time difference will be challenging but thought we should offer.

Let me know!  
 Merci,  
 Mathilde

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**De :** Richardson, Beth -WER <[Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca](mailto:Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca)>  
**Envoyé :** 17 septembre 2021 13:54  
**À :** Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <[Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca](mailto:Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca)>; Bordeleau, Amélie -WWL <[Amelie.Bordeleau@international.gc.ca](mailto:Amelie.Bordeleau@international.gc.ca)>  
**Cc :** Rymek, Michael -WED <[Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca](mailto:Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca)>; Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>; Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>  
**Objet :** FOR WGM USE - WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica

| <b>WGM Approval Form</b> |                   |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Request from             | WGM               |
| Due date                 | COB, September 20 |
| Drafted by               | WER/ Anctil       |
| Consulted with           | WER, JBURG, BPA   |
| Approved by              | WED/Guttman       |

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| Object   | Meeting note for WGM call with ReconAfrica on Sept. 23 at 2 pm.   |
| Comments | <p>ReconAfrica is a Vancouver-based junior mining company that has received a lot of media attention in the spring and summer of 2021 for their operations in Namibia. Attached are relevant information about this file (National Geographic and Globe &amp; Mail articles).</p> <p><b>Please note a pre-meeting briefing has been scheduled with WGM on September 23 at 10:30AM. HC Cooter will attend, as well as STC Alan Edwards and Claude Gendron.</b></p> |

## Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER  
**Sent:** September 21, 2021 8:57 AM  
**To:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD  
**Cc:** Edwards, Allan -BBI; Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD; Rormose, Lilly -JBURG -TD  
**Subject:** RE: ReconAfrica meeting with ADM

Prep call is at 10:30 am (Ottawa time) on Thursday  
Call with company is at 2 pm (Ottawa time) on Thursday

oWGM suggested we limit number of WGM participants on the call with the company.

---

**From:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 21, 2021 8:45 AM  
**To:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Edwards, Allan -BBI <Allan.Edwards@international.gc.ca>; Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD  
<Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca>; Rormose, Lilly -JBURG -TD <Lilly.Rormose@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** ReconAfrica meeting with ADM

Hi Claude

Please could you confirm when the meeting between the ADM and ReconAfrica will take place? We have got a diary entry for a prep meeting at 10:30am (Ottawa time) on Thursday but no other meeting invitation I can see? Is this the meeting between ReconAfrica and the ADM

Thanks  
JP

## Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER  
**Sent:** September 21, 2021 1:37 PM  
**To:** Rymek, Michael -WED  
**Cc:** Richardson, Beth -WER  
**Subject:** RE: WER response to WGM follow-up questions - Meeting note for call with ReconAfrica on Thursday - WED APPROVED WITH SUGGESTION

Michael,

oWGM souhaiterait recevoir ce que nous avons maintenant et mentionner à Mala que le reste arrivera plus tard.

Claude

---

**From:** Rymek, Michael -WED <Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 21, 2021 1:28 PM  
**To:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Richardson, Beth -WER <Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** WER response to WGM follow-up questions - Meeting note for call with ReconAfrica on Thursday - WED APPROVED WITH SUGGESTION

---

**From:** Guttman, Tamara -WED <Tamara.Guttman@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 21, 2021 1:25 PM  
**To:** Rymek, Michael -WED <Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: WER response to WGM follow-up questions - Meeting note for call with ReconAfrica on Thursday - FOR APPROVAL

Ok – but check with o/WGM if she wants it before the GENEV input is rec'd (I'd suggest holding until it is complete)

---

**From:** Rymek, Michael -WED <Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 21, 2021 1:21 PM  
**To:** Guttman, Tamara -WED <Tamara.Guttman@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** WER response to WGM follow-up questions - Meeting note for call with ReconAfrica on Thursday - FOR APPROVAL

See below.

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**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 21, 2021 1:16 PM  
**To:** Rymek, Michael -WED <Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Richardson, Beth -WER <Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca>; Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** FOR WED APPROVAL: WER response to WGM follow-up questions - Meeting note for call with ReconAfrica on Thursday

Michael,

Please find below for WED approval WER response to follow-up questions by WGM for the call with ReconAfrica on Sept 23 at 2 pm (this Thursday).

WER added one more question for WGM's interest.

WER is awaiting response from GENEV to the question about the IUCN. WER response will be updated once we receive GENEV input.

Claude

| <b>WGM Approval Form</b> |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Request from             | WGM  |
| Due date                 | COB, September 21  |
| Drafted by               | WER/Gendron  |
| Consulted with           | BPA, PRMNY, JLI, JBURG (awaiting GENEV input)  |
| Approved by              | WER/Richardson   |
| Object                   | WGM follow-up questions to Meeting note for WGM call with ReconAfrica on Sept. 23 at 2 pm.   |
| Comments                 | <p>ReconAfrica is a Vancouver-based junior mining company that has received a lot of media attention in the spring and summer of 2021 for their operations in Namibia. Attached are relevant information about this file (National Geographic and Globe &amp; Mail articles).</p> <p><b>Please note a pre-meeting briefing has been scheduled with WGM on September 23 at 10:30AM. HC Cooter will attend, as well as STC Alan Edwards and Claude Gendron.</b></p> <p>Follow-up questions: WER added a question for WGM's interest.</p> |

**-Is there a report of the Aug 25 meeting with PRMNY?**

- Following guidance from Ottawa, HOM took this call alone. ReconAfrica followed up requesting the contact of the resident coordinators in Namibia and Botswana and this information was relayed to JBURG and the contacts shared with ReconAfrica. No readout is available.

**-WGM would also like to better understand the relationship between receiving trade commissioner services and what the NCP could provide.**

- Canada's National Contact Point for Responsible Business Conduct (NCP) is an interdepartmental committee chaired by GAC (BPD) and co-chaired by NRCan. It comprises officials from eight departments, which are Innovation, Science and Economic Development; Natural Resources Canada; Finance; Environment and Climate Change; Crown-Indigenous Relations; Employment and Social Development Canada; Public Services and Procurement Canada; and, Global Affairs.
- The Canadian NCP was established through an order in council in the year 2000, as an obligation to countries adhering to the OECD Guidelines on Multinational Enterprises to create and maintain a voluntary, non-judicial grievance mechanism mandated to: 1) promote the Guidelines with businesses and other stakeholders; 2)

s.20(1)(c)

s.21(1)(a)

respond to enquiries on the Guidelines; and 3) offer a mediation and conciliation platform to help resolve cases (known as “specific instances”) of the alleged non-observance of the Guidelines.

- The NCP provides a process that helps parties (any individual, organisation, or community that believes an enterprise’s actions or activities are not consistent with the Guidelines) work towards a mutual agreement and resolution of the issues raised.
- Canada has two dispute resolution mechanisms: the NCP and the Canadian Ombudsperson for Responsible Enterprise (CORE). While the NCP can consider issues relating to the Chapters of the Guidelines, arising across all sectors (including human rights) in Canada and abroad, the CORE has the mandate to consider allegations of human rights abuses arising from the operations of a Canadian company abroad in the mining, oil and gas and garment sectors. Canada’s NCP and the CORE work in complementarity.
- As a voluntary, non-judicial grievance mechanism, the NCP expects that all parties to a case participate in good faith in the proceedings. However, as leverage to encourage participation and good faith engagement by companies, the NCP and the CORE can recommend the imposition of trade measures, namely, the denial or withdrawal of Government of Canada trade advocacy support and Export Development Canada (EDC) future financial support.
- It should be noted that the Integrity Declaration, which companies must complete prior to receiving Government of Canada trade advocacy support, also refers explicitly to the NCP and the OECD Guidelines.

**-What is the potential impact of the September 9 motion from the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)?**

- The International Union is one of the most significant conservation organizations worldwide. It has no legislative or enforcement mandate nor capacity, but its resolutions hold considerable influence and political weight. PLACEHOLDER for Geneva to add details on <https://www.sundaystandard.info/iucn-warns-reconafrika/>

**-What more could GAC provide to Recon and what would need to happen before doing so?**

- GAC’s Trade Commissioner Service (TCS) need to continue to maintain the dialogue with ReconAfrica.

**-WER Additional Question: Are the NCP and CORE’s mandate limited to human rights abuses ?**

- No – while the Canadian Ombudsperson for Responsible Enterprise’s (CORE) mandate covers alleged human rights abuses in the mining, oil and gas and garment sectors, the National Contact Point (NCP) for RBC for the OECD offers dispute resolution for a range of issues including disclosure, labour issues, human rights, environmental issues, and bribery. There are no allegations of human rights abuses by ReconAfrica.

---

**From:** Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <[Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca](mailto:Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca)>

**Sent:** September 20, 2021 7:38 AM

**To:** Richardson, Beth -WER <[Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca](mailto:Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca)>; Bordeleau, Amélie -WWL <[Amelie.Bordeleau@international.gc.ca](mailto:Amelie.Bordeleau@international.gc.ca)>

**Cc:** Rymek, Michael -WED <[Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca](mailto:Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca)>; Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>; Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: FOR WGM USE - WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica

Bonjour Beth,

Mala has a couple of follow up questions;

-Is there a report of the Aug 25 meeting with PRMNY?

-She would also like to better understand the relationship between receiving trade commissioner services and what the NCP could provide.

-What is the potential impact of the September 9 motion from the International Union for Conservation of Nature?

-A more general question: what more could GAC provide to Recon and what would need to happen before doing so?

Merci!

M

**De :** Richardson, Beth -WER <[Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca](mailto:Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca)>

**Envoyé :** 17 septembre 2021 13:54

**À :** Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <[Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca](mailto:Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca)>; Bordeleau, Amélie -WWL <[Amelie.Bordeleau@international.gc.ca](mailto:Amelie.Bordeleau@international.gc.ca)>

**Cc :** Rymek, Michael -WED <[Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca](mailto:Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca)>; Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>; Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>

**Objet :** FOR WGM USE - WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica

| <b>WGM Approval Form</b> |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Request from             | WGM   |
| Due date                 | COB, September 20   |
| Drafted by               | WER/Anctil  |
| Consulted with           | WER, JBURG, BPA   |
| Approved by              | WED/Guttman   |
| Object                   | Meeting note for WGM call with ReconAfrica on Sept. 23 at 2 pm.   |
| Comments                 | <p>ReconAfrica is a Vancouver-based junior mining company that has received a lot of media attention in the spring and summer of 2021 for their operations in Namibia. Attached are relevant information about this file (National Geographic and Globe &amp; Mail articles).</p> <p><b>Please note a pre-meeting briefing has been scheduled with WGM on September 23 at 10:30AM. HC Cooter will attend, as well as STC Alan Edwards and Claude Gendron.</b></p> |



**Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER**

---

**From:** Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM  
**Sent:** September 21, 2021 1:45 PM  
**To:** Khanna, Mala -WGM  
**Cc:** Bordeleau, Amélie -WGM  
**Subject:** RE: FOR WGM USE - WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica

Bonjour Mala,

Please find below the answers to your questions re ReconAfrica

**-Is there a report of the Aug 25 meeting with PRMNY?**

- Following guidance from Ottawa, HOM took this call alone. ReconAfrica followed up requesting the contact of the resident coordinators in Namibia and Botswana and this information was relayed to JBURG and the contacts shared with ReconAfrica. No readout is available.

**-WGM would also like to better understand the relationship between receiving trade commissioner services and what the NCP could provide.**

- Canada's National Contact Point for Responsible Business Conduct (NCP) is an interdepartmental committee chaired by GAC (BPD) and co-chaired by NRCan. It comprises officials from eight departments, which are Innovation, Science and Economic Development; Natural Resources Canada; Finance; Environment and Climate Change; Crown-Indigenous Relations; Employment and Social Development Canada; Public Services and Procurement Canada; and, Global Affairs.
- The Canadian NCP was established through an order in council in the year 2000, as an obligation to countries adhering to the OECD Guidelines on Multinational Enterprises to create and maintain a voluntary, non-judicial grievance mechanism mandated to: 1) promote the Guidelines with businesses and other stakeholders; 2) respond to enquiries on the Guidelines; and 3) offer a mediation and conciliation platform to help resolve cases (known as "specific instances") of the alleged non-observance of the Guidelines.
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- As a voluntary, non-judicial grievance mechanism, the NCP expects that all parties to a case participate in good faith in the proceedings. However, as leverage to encourage participation and good faith engagement by companies, the NCP and the CORE can recommend the imposition of trade measures, namely, the denial or withdrawal of Government of Canada trade advocacy support and Export Development Canada (EDC) future financial support.
- It should be noted that the Integrity Declaration, which companies must complete prior to receiving Government of Canada trade advocacy support, also refers explicitly to the NCP and the OECD Guidelines.

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- The International Union is one of the most significant conservation organizations worldwide. It has no legislative or enforcement mandate nor capacity, but its resolutions hold considerable influence and political weight. PLACEHOLDER for Geneva to add details on <https://www.sundaystandard.info/iucn-warns-reconafrika/>

**-What more could GAC provide to Recon and what would need to happen before doing so?**

- GAC's Trade Commissioner Service (TCS) need to continue to maintain the dialogue with ReconAfrica.

**-WER Additional Question: Are the NCP and CORE's mandate limited to human rights abuses ?**

- No – while the Canadian Ombudsperson for Responsible Enterprise's (CORE) mandate covers alleged human rights abuses in the mining, oil and gas and garment sectors, the National Contact Point (NCP) for RBC for the OECD offers dispute resolution for a range of issues including disclosure, labour issues, human rights, environmental issues, and bribery. There are no allegations of human rights abuses by ReconAfrica.

---

**De :** Khanna, Mala -WGM <Mala.Khanna@international.gc.ca>

**Envoyé :** 20 septembre 2021 06:34

**À :** Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca>

**Cc :** Bordeleau, Amélie -WWL <Amelie.Bordeleau@international.gc.ca>; Bérubé, Jacinthe -WGM <Jacinthe.Berube@international.gc.ca>

**Objet :** RE: FOR WGM USE - WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica

Thank you, Mathilde. Very helpful. A few questions:

-Is there a report of the Aug 25 meeting with PRMNY?

-I would also like to better understand the relationship between receiving trade commissioner services and what the NCP could provide.

-What is the potential impact of the September 9 motion from the International Union for Conservation of Nature?

-A more general question: what more could GAC provide to Recon and what would need to happen before doing so?

---

**From :** Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca>

**Sent:** September 17, 2021 2:24 PM

**To:** Khanna, Mala -WGM <Mala.Khanna@international.gc.ca>

**Cc:** Bordeleau, Amélie -WWL <Amelie.Bordeleau@international.gc.ca>; Bérubé, Jacinthe -WGM <Jacinthe.Berube@international.gc.ca>

**Subject:** FOR WGM USE - WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica

Bonjour Mala,

En p.j. la note pour la rencontre avec ReconAfrica de jeudi.

As mentioned, the note includes a bio of the three participants for ReconAfrica.

On our side we recommend having  
 PRET-HOM/Cooter,  
 JBURG/Van Der Merwe  
 WER/Gendron

If time difference is an issue and Chris cannot attend Beth would be interested in participating. We could also invite BPA (responsible business practice) on the call, but given it's an introductory call we thought it wouldn't be necessary. They will however be present at your briefing prior to the call. If you'd prefer to keep it internal let me know it's not an issue.

Merci!

Mathilde

---

**De :** Richardson, Beth -WER <Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca>

**Envoyé :** 17 septembre 2021 13:54

**À :** Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca>; Bordeleau, Amélie -WWL <Amelie.Bordeleau@international.gc.ca>

Cc : Rymek, Michael -WED <Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca>; Gendron, Claude -WER  
<Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>; Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>

Objet : FOR WGM USE - WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica

| <b>WGM Approval Form</b> |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Request from             | WGM   |
| Due date                 | COB, September 20   |
| Drafted by               | WER/Anctil  |
| Consulted with           | WER, JBURG, BPA   |
| Approved by              | WED/Guttman   |
| Object                   | Meeting note for WGM call with ReconAfrica on Sept. 23 at 2 pm.   |
| Comments                 | <p>ReconAfrica is a Vancouver-based junior mining company that has received a lot of media attention in the spring and summer of 2021 for their operations in Namibia. Attached are relevant information about this file (National Geographic and Globe &amp; Mail articles).</p> <p><b>Please note a pre-meeting briefing has been scheduled with WGM on September 23 at 10:30AM. HC Cooter will attend, as well as STC Alan Edwards and Claude Gendron.</b></p> |

## Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER

---

**Subject:** Recon Africa x ADM Mala Khanna - Assistant Deputy Minister, Sub-Saharan Africa  
Branch - Global Affairs Canada

**Location:** MS Teams

**Start:** Thu 2021-09-23 1:45 PM  
**End:** Thu 2021-09-23 2:15 PM  
**Show Time As:** Tentative

**Recurrence:** (none)

**Meeting Status:** Not yet responded

**Organizer:** Khanna, Mala -WGM  
**Required Attendees:** 'Will Adams'; 'diana.mcqueen@reconafrica.com'; Cooter, Chris -PRET -HOM/CDM;  
Gendron, Claude -WER  
**Optional Attendees:** Richardson, Beth -WER; craig@reconrecon.com

---

## Microsoft Teams meeting

**Join on your computer or mobile app**

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Phone Conference ID: 554 290 596#

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[Learn More](#) | [Meeting options](#)

---

## Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER  
**Sent:** September 23, 2021 7:31 AM  
**To:** Khan, Mariam -GENEV -GR  
**Cc:** Anctil, Karel -WER; Richardson, Beth -WER; Rymek, Michael -WED; Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM  
**Subject:** RE: WGM follow-up questions to meeting note for call with ReconAfrica this week

Thank you Mariam. Noted.

---

**From:** Khan, Mariam -GENEV -GR <Mariam.Khan@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 23, 2021 7:29 AM  
**To:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>; Richardson, Beth -WER <Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca>; Rymek, Michael -WED <Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca>; Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: WGM follow-up questions to meeting note for call with ReconAfrica this week

Hi Claude,

Sincere apologies, I consulted with likeminded but many do not follow this issue closely in Geneva.

Therefore, unfortunately, I didn't receive any additional information that could provide clarity to the impacts of the motion.

Mariam

Mariam Khan  
First Secretary (Legal Affairs) | Première Secrétaire (Affaires légales)  
[Mariam.khan@international.gc.ca](mailto:Mariam.khan@international.gc.ca)  
Tel.: +41 (0)22 919 92 44  
Mobile: +41 (0)79 408 07 64  
Fax: +41 (0)22 919 92 27  
Avenue de l'Ariana 5, 1202 Genève, Suisse  
Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations | Mission permanente du Canada auprès des Nations Unies  
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada



Government  
of Canada

Gouvernement  
du Canada

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 23, 2021 1:27 PM  
**To:** Khan, Mariam -GENEV -GR <Mariam.Khan@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>; Richardson, Beth -WER

<[Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca](mailto:Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca)>; Rymek, Michael -WED <[Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca](mailto:Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca)>; Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <[Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca](mailto:Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: WGM follow-up questions to meeting note for call with ReconAfrica this week

Hi Mariam,

Just checking if by any chance you were able to get responses from likeminded to our question.

Thank you!

Claude

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER

**Sent:** September 22, 2021 7:37 AM

**To:** Khan, Mariam -GENEV -GR <[Mariam.Khan@international.gc.ca](mailto:Mariam.Khan@international.gc.ca)>

**Cc:** Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>; Richardson, Beth -WER

<[Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca](mailto:Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca)>; Rymek, Michael -WED <[Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca](mailto:Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca)>; Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <[Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca](mailto:Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: WGM follow-up questions to meeting note for call with ReconAfrica this week

Thank you Mariam,

Nice to hear from you 😊

It would help if you could consult with likeminded. We have not received any input related to the IUCN through our consultations. Attached is what we supplied to WGM ahead of the meeting. A placeholder was added in case we receive input related to IUCN before the meeting.

Meeting with the company is tomorrow at 2 pm (Ottawa time) and pre-briefing is tomorrow at 10:30 AM (Ottawa time).

Thank you

Claude

---

**From:** Khan, Mariam -GENEV -GR <[Mariam.Khan@international.gc.ca](mailto:Mariam.Khan@international.gc.ca)>

**Sent:** September 22, 2021 4:46 AM

**To:** Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>

**Cc:** Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>; Richardson, Beth -WER

<[Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca](mailto:Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca)>; Rymek, Michael -WED <[Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca](mailto:Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca)>; Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <[Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca](mailto:Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: WGM follow-up questions to meeting note for call with ReconAfrica this week

Hi Claude,

Nice to hear from you. Hope you are doing well.

Unfortunately, GENEV does not follow the substantial issues related to IUCN, therefore I am unable to comment on the potential impact of the September 9<sup>th</sup> motion.

Our role in GENEV is mainly to function as a mailbox to forward to HQ any important initiatives or updates. If it would help, I could consult likeminded in my network to inquire whether they have any views or whether they are following this issue. Please let me know.

Mariam

Mariam Khan  
First Secretary (Legal Affairs) | Première Secrétaire (Affaires légales)  
[Mariam.khan@international.gc.ca](mailto:Mariam.khan@international.gc.ca)  
Tel.: +41 (0)22 919 92 44  
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Avenue de l'Ariana 5, 1202 Genève, Suisse  
Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations | Mission permanente du Canada auprès des Nations Unies  
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada



Government  
of Canada

Gouvernement  
du Canada

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**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** September 21, 2021 1:36 PM  
**To:** Khan, Mariam -GENEV -GR <[Mariam.Khan@international.gc.ca](mailto:Mariam.Khan@international.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>; Richardson, Beth -WER <[Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca](mailto:Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca)>; Rymek, Michael -WED <[Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca](mailto:Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca)>; Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <[Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca](mailto:Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** WGM follow-up questions to meeting note for call with ReconAfrica this week  
**Importance:** High

Hi Mariam,

Hope this message finds you well.

I would be grateful for GENEV assistance in responding to WGM question below related to the International Union for Conservation of Nature based in Switzerland (section highlighted in yellow).

This is in preparation to a WGM call with ReconAfrica on Thursday.

Thank you!  
Claude

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**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** September 20, 2021 9:51 AM  
**To:** St-Laurent, Carl -BPA <[Carl.St-Laurent@international.gc.ca](mailto:Carl.St-Laurent@international.gc.ca)>; Waterfield, Nicola -GENEV -GVWTO <[Nicola.Waterfield@international.gc.ca](mailto:Nicola.Waterfield@international.gc.ca)>; O'Toole, Christopher -GENEV -GVWTO <[Christopher.O'Toole@international.gc.ca](mailto:Christopher.O'Toole@international.gc.ca)>; Frenette, Anne -JLI <[Anne.Frenette@international.gc.ca](mailto:Anne.Frenette@international.gc.ca)>; Lavoie, Nathalie -NGB <[Nathalie.Lavoie@international.gc.ca](mailto:Nathalie.Lavoie@international.gc.ca)>; Nadeau, Catherine -PRMNY -GR <[Catherine.Nadeau@international.gc.ca](mailto:Catherine.Nadeau@international.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Richardson, Beth -WER <[Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca](mailto:Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca)>; Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>; Lunstead, Nicole -BPA <[Nicole.Lunstead@international.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Lunstead@international.gc.ca)>; Edwards, Allan -BBI <[Allan.Edwards@international.gc.ca](mailto:Allan.Edwards@international.gc.ca)>; Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD <[Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca](mailto:Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca)>; Rymek, Michael -WED <[Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca](mailto:Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca)>; Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM

<Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca>

**Subject:** FOR REVIEW - WGM follow-up questions to meeting note for call with ReconAfrica this week

Dear colleagues,

WGM will be meeting with Vancouver-based ReconAfrica this week regarding their operations in Namibia and Botswana.

Grateful for your review of suggested response to WGM follow-up questions to the attached meeting note.

Claude

**-Is there a report of the Aug 25 meeting with PRMNY?**

- Following guidance from Ottawa, HOM took this call alone. ReconAfrica followed up requesting the contact of the resident coordinators in Namibia and Botswana and this information was relayed to JBURG and the contacts shared with reconAfrica. No readout is available.

**-She would also like to better understand the relationship between receiving trade commissioner services and what the NCP could provide.**

- Canada's National Contact Point for Responsible Business Conduct (NCP) is an interdepartmental committee chaired by GAC (BPD) and co-chaired by NRCan. It comprises officials from eight departments, which are Innovation, Science and Economic Development; Natural Resources Canada; Finance; Environment and Climate Change; Crown-Indigenous Relations; Employment and Social Development Canada; Public Services and Procurement Canada; and, Global Affairs.
- The Canadian NCP was established through an order in council in the year 2000, as an obligation to countries adhering to the OECD Guidelines on Multinational Enterprises to create and maintain a voluntary, non-judicial grievance mechanism mandated to: 1) promote the Guidelines with businesses and other stakeholders; 2) respond to enquiries on the Guidelines; and 3) offer a mediation and conciliation platform to help resolve cases (known as "specific instances") of the alleged non-observance of the Guidelines.
- The NCP provides a process that helps parties (any individual, organisation, or community that believes an enterprise's actions or activities are not consistent with the Guidelines) work towards a mutual agreement and resolution of the issues raised.
- Canada has two dispute resolution mechanisms: the NCP and the Canadian Ombudsperson for Responsible Enterprise (CORE). While the NCP can consider issues relating to the Chapters of the Guidelines, arising across all sectors (including human rights) in Canada and abroad, the CORE has the mandate to consider allegations of human rights abuses arising from the operations of a Canadian company abroad in the mining, oil and gas and garment sectors. Canada's NCP and the CORE work in complementarity.
- As a voluntary, non-judicial grievance mechanism, the NCP expects that all parties to a case participate in good faith in the proceedings. However, as leverage to encourage participation and good faith engagement by companies, the NCP and the CORE can recommend the imposition of trade measures, namely, the denial or withdrawal of Government of Canada trade advocacy support and Export Development Canada (EDC) future financial support.
- It should be noted that the Integrity Declaration, which companies must complete prior to receiving Government of Canada trade advocacy support, also refers explicitly to the NCP and the OECD Guidelines.

**-What is the potential impact of the September 9 motion from the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)?**

- GENEV, grateful if you could explain any potential impact to ReconAfrica following the Sept 9 motion?  
Ref: <https://www.sundaystandard.info/iucn-warns-reconafrika/>

**-A more general question: what more could GAC provide to Recon and what would need to happen before doing so?**



s.20(1)(c)  
 s.21(1)(a)

- GAC's Trade Commissioner Service (TCS) need to continue to maintain the dialogue with ReconAfrica.

**-WER Additional question: Are the NCP and CORE's mandate limited to human rights abuses ?**

- No – while the Canadian Ombudsperson for Responsible Enterprise's (CORE) mandate covers alleged human rights abuses in the mining, oil and gas and garment sectors, the National Contact Point (NCP) for RBC for the OECD offers dispute resolution for a range of issues including disclosure, labour issues, human rights, environmental issues, and bribery. There are no allegations of human rights abuses by ReconAfrica.

Consulted: BPA, PRMNY, JLI, GENEV-WTO

**From:** Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 20, 2021 7:38 AM  
**To:** Richardson, Beth -WER <Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca>; Bordeleau, Amélie -WWL <Amelie.Bordeleau@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Rymek, Michael -WED <Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca>; Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>; Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: FOR WGM USE - WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica

Bonjour Beth,

Mala has a couple of follow up questions;

- Is there a report of the Aug 25 meeting with PRMNY?
- She would also like to better understand the relationship between receiving trade commissioner services and what the NCP could provide.
- What is the potential impact of the September 9 motion from the International Union for Conservation of Nature?
- A more general question: what more could GAC provide to Recon and what would need to happen before doing so?

Merci!  
 M

**De :** Richardson, Beth -WER <Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca>  
**Envoyé :** 17 septembre 2021 13:54  
**À :** Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca>; Bordeleau, Amélie -WWL <Amelie.Bordeleau@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc :** Rymek, Michael -WED <Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca>; Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>; Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>  
**Objet :** FOR WGM USE - WGM meeting note for call with ReconAfrica

| <b>WGM Approval Form</b> |                   |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Request from             | WGM               |
| Due date                 | COB, September 20 |
| Drafted by               | WER/Anctil        |
| Consulted with           | WER, JBURG, BPA   |
| Approved by              | WED/Guttman       |

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| Object   | Meeting note for WGM call with ReconAfrica on Sept. 23 at 2 pm.   |
| Comments | <p>ReconAfrica is a Vancouver-based junior mining company that has received a lot of media attention in the spring and summer of 2021 for their operations in Namibia. Attached are relevant information about this file (National Geographic and Globe &amp; Mail articles).</p> <p><b>Please note a pre-meeting briefing has been scheduled with WGM on September 23 at 10:30AM. HC Cooter will attend, as well as STC Alan Edwards and Claude Gendron.</b></p> |

## Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER

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**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER  
**Sent:** September 23, 2021 9:43 AM  
**To:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD  
**Cc:** Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD; Edwards, Allan -JBURG -TD; Anctil, Karel -WER; Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM; Rymek, Michael -WED; Richardson, Beth -WER; Richardson, Beth -WER  
**Subject:** RE: Call with ReconAfrica on Thursday, Sept 23

Thanks for this info. Looping in oWED and oWGM for their awareness.  
C.

---

**From:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 23, 2021 9:32 AM  
**To:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD <Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca>; Edwards, Allan -JBURG -TD <Allan.Edwards@international.gc.ca>; Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Call with ReconAfrica on Thursday, Sept 23

Hi Claude

The only think I thought we may want to add to the briefing note or as an additional piece of information for Mala is that I plan to meet with ReconAfrica on 21/22 October at their office in Rundu and also hope to travel to one of their drilling sites. Lastly, I plan to meet with the Namibian Chamber of Environment's CEO, Chris Brown, on another day of my Namibia trip to get his views on ReconAfrica.

Kind regards  
JP

## Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER

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**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER  
**Sent:** September 23, 2021 11:34 AM  
**To:** St-Laurent, Carl -BPA  
**Subject:** RE: Recon Africa x ADM Mala Khanna - Assistant Deputy Minister, Sub-Saharan Africa Branch - Global Affairs Canada

Mala ne souhaite équilibrer le nombre de participants entre GAC et Recon.  
Elle estime que la présence de BPA n'est pas requise à la rencontre et me demande de vous partager le compte rendu ensuite au cas où des suivis seraient à faire.  
Claude

---

**From:** St-Laurent, Carl -BPA <Carl.St-Laurent@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 23, 2021 11:29 AM  
**To:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Recon Africa x ADM Mala Khanna - Assistant Deputy Minister, Sub-Saharan Africa Branch - Global Affairs Canada

Bonjour Claude,

On me demande de confirmer avec toi si la présence de BPA est nécessaire à la rencontre cet après-midi. Nous croyons pas que c'est nécessaire et ceci n'a pas été confirmé ce matin mais simplement confirmer svp.

Merci,  
Carl

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 22, 2021 2:04 PM  
**To:** Allan, James -WER <James.Allan@international.gc.ca>; St-Laurent, Carl -BPA <Carl.St-Laurent@international.gc.ca>; Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca>; Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD <Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca>; Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** FW: Recon Africa x ADM Mala Khanna - Assistant Deputy Minister, Sub-Saharan Africa Branch - Global Affairs Canada

FYI

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**From:** Lalonde, Sarah -WGM <Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 22, 2021 1:57 PM  
**To:** Cooter, Chris -PRET -HOM/CDM <Chris.Cooter@international.gc.ca>; Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Richardson, Beth -WER <Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca>; Bordeleau, Amélie -WGM <Amelie.Bordeleau@international.gc.ca>; Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** Recon Africa x ADM Mala Khanna - Assistant Deputy Minister, Sub-Saharan Africa Branch - Global Affairs Canada

Good afternoon,

Recon Africa just sent me this deck for tomorrow's meeting. Is this something you want me to attach in the meeting invite or just circulate to Mala?

Thanks,

*Sarah Lalonde*

Administrative Officer, Executive Services | Agente Administrative, Services Exécutifs  
Office of the Assistant Deputy Minister (WGM) | Bureau de la Sous-ministre adjointe (WGM)  
Sub-Saharan Africa Branch | Secteur de l'Afrique subsaharienne  
125 Sussex, Ottawa ON K1A 0G2  
Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada  
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

Telephone | Téléphone +1.613.290.7385

[sarah.lalonde@international.gc.ca](mailto:sarah.lalonde@international.gc.ca)



Global Affairs    Affaires mondiales  
Canada            Canada

## Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER


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**From:** Anctil, Karel -WER  
**Sent:** September 26, 2021 9:35 PM  
**To:** Gendron, Claude -WER  
**Subject:** RE: Hot Topic Monitoring (ReconAfrica)

Nothing new. Rehashing the same content (fracking and perceived stock manipulation) from last spring.

Fracking: Proven more than once they are not going to do it.

Stock manipulation: Yet to be proven. Right now, just a complain.

Karel Anctil  
Trade Commissioner | Délégué commercial  
Southern and Eastern Africa Bilateral Relations Division | Direction des relations bilatérales avec l'Afrique australe et de l'Est (WER)  
Email | Courriel : [karel.anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:karel.anctil@international.gc.ca)  
Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada  
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada  
 Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada

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**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** September 25, 2021 12:56 AM  
**To:** Richardson, Beth -WER <[Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca](mailto:Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca)>; Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>; Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <[Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)>; Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD <[Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca](mailto:Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Rymek, Michael -WED <[Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca](mailto:Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca)>; Cooter, Chris -PRET -HOM/CDM <[Chris.Cooter@international.gc.ca](mailto:Chris.Cooter@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: Hot Topic Monitoring (ReconAfrica)

FYI

---

**From:** St-Laurent, Carl -BPA <[Carl.St-Laurent@international.gc.ca](mailto:Carl.St-Laurent@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** September 24, 2021 11:36 AM  
**To:** Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: Hot Topic Monitoring (ReconAfrica)

Pour info, dans la presse africaine aujourd'hui.

### [Civil Society Wants ReconAfrica Probed](#)

Civil society groups from Canada and America have submitted a new request to have ReconAfrica investigated on allegations of misrepresentations in the public communications. This was recently announced in a media release by the trustee of the Economic & Social Justice Trust, Rinaani Musutua, who said the request for an investigation comes on top of the filings with the US Securities and Exchange Commission.

**Richardson, Beth -WER**

**From:** Richardson, Beth -WER  
**Sent:** September 27, 2021 5:32 PM  
**To:** Gendron, Claude -WER  
**Cc:** Brown, Danika -WER  
**Subject:** RE: FOR WER DIRECTOR APPROVAL: Readout of WGM call with ReconAfrica, September 23, 2021

Hi Claude, this report should go straight to Mala for approval unless WED was at the meeting but I am pretty sure she wasn't. Once Mala approves the report, then you can send to WED the proposed reply.

I made a couple small adjustments below and left them in blue so you can see them, but if you agree, change them to black before sending on.

I had to look up the word stratigraphic. 😊

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**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 27, 2021 4:38 PM  
**To:** Richardson, Beth -WER <Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>; Brown, Danika -WER <Danika.Brown@international.gc.ca>; Rymek, Michael -WED <Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** FOR WER DIRECTOR APPROVAL: Readout of WGM call with ReconAfrica, September 23, 2021

Beth,

Please find below for your review (1) the readout of the WGM call with ReconAfrica on Sept 23 and (2) a suggested response to oMINT questions.

Claude

| <b>WED Approval Form</b> |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Request from             | oMINT   |
| Due date                 | Oct 4 at 12PM (due to oDMT Policy)  |
| Drafted by               | WER/Gendron   |
| Consulted with           | WER, PRET, BPA  |
| Approved by              |   |
| Object                   | Readout of WGM call with ReconAfrica and suggested response to oMINT request for update on the file |

\*\*\*\*\* RESPONSE TO OMINT \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Gen,  
 Thank you for your request for an update on ReconAfrica. WGM met with the company on September 23. A readout is attached. We have not had other engagements with the company since oMINT met a representative in August.

JBURG is planning a site visit to Namibia on 21 and 22 October to meet with ReconAfrica staff in Rundu and will travel to one of the drilling sites.

Regards,  
Claude

\*\*\*\*\* READOUT OF WGM MEETING WITH RECON \*\*\*\*\*

## **Readout of WGM call with ReconAfrica, September 23, 2021**

### **Summary**

On September 23, 2021, WGM/Khanna, accompanied by PRET-HOM/Cooter and WER/Gendron, met with Mr. Craig Steinke, Founder of ReconAfrica, Ms. Diana McQueen, VP of Communications and External relations at ReconAfrica (former Alberta Minister of Environment and Sustainable Resource Development), and Will Adams, responsible for Government Relations at INTUIT Inc. (WHO IS THIS GUY? INTUIT IS A FINANCIAL SOFTWARE COMPANY) This was the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting between Government of Canada interlocutors and ReconAfrica since December 2020. The objective of the meeting was to get an update on the company's operations in northeast Namibia and northwest Botswana, known as the Kavango Basin; confirm latest engagement with local stakeholders (government and civil society); and enquire about ReconAfrica's short and medium-term objectives as they relate to local stakeholder engagement. ReconAfrica originally requested a call on DMT. Mr. Steinke expressed an interest in getting GoC support on the company's operations in the Kavango Basin.

### **Report**

1. ReconAfrica is a Vancouver-based junior oil and gas company that has oil and gas exploration licences in the Kavango Sedimentary Basin. The company has an office in Calgary with head offices in Vancouver and Rundu, Namibia. ReconAfrica's licenses for the Kavango Basin cover 6.3 million acres in Namibia and 2.2 million acres in Botswana. Exploration well sites are located 260 km from the World Heritage Okavango Delta.
2. Mr. Steinke delivered a presentation on ReconAfrica's activities in Namibia and Botswana (see attached). As part of the exploration phase, the first two wells have confirmed petroleum, light oil and high (British thermal unit) BTU natural gas. Geophysical interpreted data reported strong evidence of a 30,000 ft. sedimentary basin.
3. ReconAfrica received a drilling Environment Clearance Certificate (ECC) in August 2019 and seismic ECC in July 2021. The company's drilling work began in Q1 2021 and targets three to six wells in the coming year. ReconAfrica's objective is to confirm oil and gas opportunities using integrated subsurface data: airborne geophysical, stratigraphic test wells, and 2D seismic.
4. ReconAfrica confirmed it has the full support from the Government of Namibia for their project. Mr. Steinke visited Namibian President Hage Geingob on August 10 where President Geingob reaffirmed the support of his government for this project.
5. In an effort to address environmental concerns, ReconAfrica is committing to becoming a net zero emitter and is planning to contribute CAD \$10 million towards net zero commitments. The company is in the process of hiring a consultancy firm that would assist it in achieving its Net Zero (carbon) targets. ReconAfrica is also taking steps to do minimal deforestation given the company's ability to work along existing roads and tracks. ReconAfrica is using water-organic drilling mud and the reserve pit is treated with an organic permeability solution and easy to reclaim, and can be used, as appropriate, as fertilizer for local agriculture initiatives.



ReconAfrica is also using technologies that generate low intensity seismic such as the Polaris Explorer 860 seismic tractor to minimize disturbance in environmentally sensitive areas and migratory routes to protect wildlife. The company created buffer zones surrounding the exploration site, and indicated it will not conduct drilling or seismic activity in environmental sensitive areas to protect the local ecosystems.

6. ReconAfrica representatives indicated they had discussed engagement with local communities. Official unemployment number in the region is estimated to be over 40%. ReconAfrica has put in place a local hiring and training policy and is supporting higher levels of education. ReconAfrica has hired over 225 local workers to execute its drilling program.

Mr. Steinke explained that access to water is challenging in the Kavango Region (Kalahari Desert.) Locals in the region walk up to 10 km per day to get fresh water. ReconAfrica started a community water well program to provide access to large underground water aquifer. Four community water wells were provided by the company with plans for 20 more. Of the 20 additional water wells, eight locations have been selected.

All community water wells will be solar powered.

7. ReconAfrica made a donation of approx. CAD \$1.26M towards the Namibian government's Covid-19 crisis management roll-out. The funds will be utilized for the procurement of vaccines and other urgent health related equipment for the fight against Covid-19 in Namibia.
8. ReconAfrica is developing an Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) performance metrics and a strategic plan for social innovation and environmental enhancement opportunities. The company intends to work closely with organizations like the South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA), the Permanent Okavango River Basin Water Commission (OKACOM), and Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation (IRDNC). It is also formulating ESG projects and setting up a fund to support ESG investments in the region. In this context, Mr. Steinke sought WGM assistance in recommendations of NGOs, ENGOs and Canadian CSOs working in Sub-Saharan Africa. Mr. Steinke also welcomed any introduction to other GoC officials WGM could recommend.
9. PRET-HOM (WAS CHRIS ON THE CALL? HE TOLD ME HE WOULDN'T BE) discussed the recommendation made by PRMNY-HOM/Rae during the August 25<sup>th</sup> meeting with ReconAfrica. During this meeting, PRMNY-HOM/Rae encouraged the company to engage with UN Resident Coordinators in Namibia and Botswana. PRET-HOM also proposed ReconAfrica call on UN and key missions in Namibia, Germany, the US, and the UK, as those missions will likely raise the concerns they are hearing from their organizations such as NGOs, UNESCO, and IUCN. Concerns from the international community could mount as we approach COP26.
10. ReconAfrica highlighted its regular interactions with the PRET, JBURG, ROANT, ROPAC, BPA, and WER, which the company believes to be a constructive and open dialogue. Mr. Steinke and PRET-HOM/Cooter discussed the upcoming visit of JBURG to Namibia on 21 and 22 October to meet with ReconAfrica staff in Rundu and travel to one of the drilling sites.
11. WGM/Khanna concluded the meeting by thanking Mr. Steinke and Ms. McQueen for their presentations. She emphasized on the expectation for the GoC that Canadian companies active abroad respect human rights, operate transparently and in consultation with host governments and local communities, and respect applicable laws, and encouraged the company to continue its efforts in that direction. She emphasized the importance of maintaining close communication between ReconAfrica and GAC. WGM also expressed an interest in learning more about ReconAfrica's Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) plan and hoped that it would substantively address opposition to oil exploration activities in Namibia and Botswana and include proactive communication with stakeholders.

**Next steps:** A number of follow-up items were identified during the meeting:

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2. PRET/JBURG will liaise with ReconAfrica for mission's trip to Namibia on 21/22 October.

Drafted: WER/Gendron

Consulted: WER, BPA, PRET-HOM

Approved:

## Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER

---

**From:** Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM  
**Sent:** September 29, 2021 8:49 AM  
**To:** Gendron, Claude -WER  
**Cc:** Rymek, Michael -WED; Richardson, Beth -WER; Bordeleau, Amélie -WGM  
**Subject:** RE: FOR WGM APPROVAL: Readout of WGM call with ReconAfrica, September 23, 2021

Bonjour Claude, nos excuses Mala a été très occupée hier - elle vient d'approuver. Tu peux circuler, merci!  
M

-----Message d'origine-----

De : Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
Envoyé : 29 septembre 2021 06:53  
À : Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca>  
Cc : Rymek, Michael -WED <Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca>; Richardson, Beth -WER <Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca>; Bordeleau, Amélie -WGM <Amelie.Bordeleau@international.gc.ca>  
Objet : RE: FOR WGM APPROVAL: Readout of WGM call with ReconAfrica, September 23, 2021

Bonjour Mathilde,

Serait-il possible d'avoir une mise à jour sur le compte rendu de la rencontre ci-dessous?

Le bureau de oMINT a demandé d'avoir une mise à jour du dossier que nous allons transmettre via DMT Policy.

Claude

-----Original Message-----

From: Bordeleau, Amélie -WGM <Amelie.Bordeleau@international.gc.ca>  
Sent: September 27, 2021 10:02 PM  
To: Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
Cc: Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca>; Rymek, Michael -WED <Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca>; Richardson, Beth -WER <Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca>  
Subject: Re: FOR WGM APPROVAL: Readout of WGM call with ReconAfrica, September 23, 2021

Bien reçu.  
Mathilde fera suivi demain.  
Bonne soirée  
Amélie

Envoyé de mon iPhone

> Le 27 sept. 2021 à 19:14, Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca> a écrit :  
>  
> Amélie,  
>  
> Please find below for WGM approval a readout of the WGM call with ReconAfrica last week.  
>  
> Beth suggests I seek Mala's approval directly given WED did not attend the meeting. Upon Mala's approval, I will seek WED approval on a WER response to DMT-Policy.

- >
- > Best,
- > Claude
- >
- >
- >
- > WED Approval Form
- >
- > Request from
- >
- > oMINT
- >
- > Due date
- >
- > Oct 4 at 12PM (due to oDMT Policy)
- >
- > Drafted by
- >
- > WER/Gendron
- >
- > Consulted with
- >
- > WER, PRET, BPA
- >
- > Approved by
- >
- > WER/Richardson
- >
- > Object
- >
- > Readout of WGM call with ReconAfrica
- >
- > Attachments
- >
- > ReconAfrica Deck; oMINT request for an update on the ReconAfrica file.
- >
- >
- >
- >
- > Readout of WGM call with ReconAfrica, September 23, 2021
- >
- > Summary
- >
- > On September 23, 2021, WGM/Khanna, accompanied by PRET-HOM/Cooter and WER/Gendron, met with Mr. Craig Steinke, Founder of ReconAfrica, Ms. Diana McQueen, VP of Communications and External relations at ReconAfrica (former Alberta Minister of Environment and Sustainable Resource Development), and Will Adams, Intuit Inc., mandated by ReconAfrica to organize the meeting. This was the 9th meeting between Government of Canada interlocutors and ReconAfrica since December 2020. The objective of the meeting was to get an update on the company's operations in northeast Namibia and northwest Botswana, known as the Kavango Basin; confirm latest engagement with local stakeholders (government and civil society); and enquire about ReconAfrica's short and medium-term objectives as they relate to local stakeholder engagement. ReconAfrica originally requested a call on DMT. Mr. Steinke expressed an interest in getting GoC support on the company's operations in the Kavango Basin.

&gt;

&gt; Report

&gt;

> 1. ReconAfrica is a Vancouver-based junior oil and gas company that has oil and gas exploration licences in the Kavango Sedimentary Basin. The company has an office in Calgary with head offices in Vancouver and Rundu, Namibia. ReconAfrica's licenses for the Kavango Basin cover 6.3 million acres in Namibia and 2.2 million acres in Botswana. Exploration well sites are located 260 km from the World Heritage Okavango Delta.

&gt;

&gt;

> 2. Mr. Steinke delivered a presentation on ReconAfrica's activities in Namibia and Botswana (see attached). As part of the exploration phase, the first two wells have confirmed petroleum, light oil and high (British thermal unit) BTU natural gas. Geophysical interpreted data reported strong evidence of a 30,000 ft. sedimentary basin.

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&gt;

> 3. ReconAfrica received a drilling Environment Clearance Certificate (ECC) in August 2019 and seismic ECC in July 2021. The company's drilling work began in Q1 2021 and targets three to six wells in the coming year. ReconAfrica's objective is to confirm oil and gas opportunities using integrated subsurface data: airborne geophysical, stratigraphic test wells, and 2D seismic.

&gt;

&gt;

> 4. ReconAfrica confirmed it has the full support from the Government of Namibia for their project. Mr. Steinke visited Namibian President Hage Geingob on August 10 where President Geingob reaffirmed the support of his government for this project.

&gt;

&gt;

> 5. In an effort to address environmental concerns, ReconAfrica is committing to becoming a net zero emitter and is planning to contribute CAD \$10 million towards net zero commitments. The company is in the process of hiring a consultancy firm that would assist it in achieving its Net Zero (carbon) targets. ReconAfrica is also taking steps to do minimal deforestation given the company's ability to work along existing roads and tracks. ReconAfrica is using water-organic drilling mud and the reserve pit is treated with an organic permeability solution and easy to reclaim, and can be used, as appropriate, as fertilizer for local agriculture initiatives. ReconAfrica is also using technologies that generate low intensity seismic such as the Polaris Explorer 860 seismic tractor to minimize disturbance in environmentally sensitive areas and migratory routes to protect wildlife. The company created buffer zones surrounding the exploration site, and indicated it will not conduct drilling or seismic activity in environmental sensitive areas to protect the local ecosystems.

&gt;

&gt;

> 6. ReconAfrica representatives indicated they had discussed engagement with local communities. Official unemployment number in the region is estimated to be over 40%. ReconAfrica has put in place a local hiring and training policy and is supporting higher levels of education. ReconAfrica has hired over 225 local workers to execute its drilling program.

Mr. Steinke explained that access to water is challenging in the Kavango Region (Kalahari Desert.) Locals in the region walk up to 10 km per day to get fresh water. ReconAfrica started a community water well program to provide access to large underground water aquifer. Four community water wells were provided by the company with plans for 20 more. Of the 20 additional water wells, eight locations have been selected.

All community water wells will be solar powered.

&gt;

&gt;

&gt;

> 7. ReconAfrica made a donation of approx. CAD \$1.26M towards the Namibian government's Covid-19 crisis management roll-out. The funds will be utilized for the procurement of vaccines and other urgent health related equipment for the fight against Covid-19 in Namibia.

>  
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>

> 8. ReconAfrica is developing an Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) performance metrics and a strategic plan for social innovation and environmental enhancement opportunities. The company intends to work closely with organizations like the South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA), the Permanent Okavango River Basin Water Commission (OKACOM), and Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation (IRDNC). It is also formulating ESG projects and setting up a fund to support ESG investments in the region. In this context, Mr. Steinke sought WGM assistance in recommendations of NGOs, ENGOs and Canadian CSOs working in Sub-Saharan Africa. Mr. Steinke also welcomed any introduction to other GoC officials WGM could recommend.

>  
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>

> 2. PRET/JBURG will liaise with ReconAfrica for mission's trip to Namibia on 21/22 October.

>

> Drafted: WER/Gendron

> Consulted: WER, BPA, PRET-HOM

> Approved:

>  
>

## **Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER**

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER  
**Sent:** September 29, 2021 1:59 PM  
**To:** Cooter, Chris -PRET -HOM/CDM; Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD; Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD; Rormose, Lilly -JBURG -TD; Anctil, Karel -WER; Hindle, Laird -WER; Mercier, Olivier -WER; St-Laurent, Carl -BPA; Haque, Azra -MPUTO -TD; Nadeau, Catherine -PRMNY -GR; McInnis, Crista -BFM; Morison, Alex -ROPAC -TD  
**Cc:** Richardson, Beth -WER; Rymek, Michael -WED; Bordeleau, Amélie -WGM; Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM; Brown, Danika -WER  
**Subject:** Readout of WGM call with ReconAfrica, September 23, 2021  
**Attachments:** ReconAfrica Sept 2021.pptx

Dear colleagues,

Please find below the readout of WGM call with ReconAfrica on September 23, 2021.

Claude

### **Readout of WGM call with ReconAfrica, September 23, 2021**

#### **Summary**

On September 23, 2021, WGM/Khanna, accompanied by PRET-HOM/Cooter and WER/Gendron, met with Mr. Craig Steinke, Founder of ReconAfrica, Ms. Diana McQueen, VP of Communications and External relations at ReconAfrica (former Alberta Minister of Environment and Sustainable Resource Development), and Will Adams, Intuit Inc., mandated by ReconAfrica to organize the meeting. This was the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting between Government of Canada interlocutors and ReconAfrica since December 2020. The objective of the meeting was to get an update on the company's operations in northeast Namibia and northwest Botswana, known as the Kavango Basin; confirm latest engagement with local stakeholders (government and civil society); and enquire about ReconAfrica's short and medium-term objectives as they relate to local stakeholder engagement. ReconAfrica originally requested a call on DMT. Mr. Steinke expressed an interest in getting GoC support on the company's operations in the Kavango Basin.

#### **Report**

1. ReconAfrica is a Vancouver-based junior oil and gas company that has oil and gas exploration licences in the Kavango Sedimentary Basin. The company has an office in Calgary with head offices in Vancouver and Rundu, Namibia. ReconAfrica's licenses for the Kavango Basin cover 6.3 million acres in Namibia and 2.2 million acres in Botswana. Exploration well sites are located 260 km from the World Heritage Okavango Delta.
2. Mr. Steinke delivered a presentation on ReconAfrica's activities in Namibia and Botswana (see attached). As part of the exploration phase, the first two wells have confirmed petroleum, light oil and high (British thermal unit) BTU natural gas. Geophysical interpreted data reported strong evidence of a 30,000 ft. sedimentary basin.
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s.20(1)(b)

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Mr. Steinke explained that access to water is challenging in the Kavango Region (Kalahari Desert.) Locals in the region walk up to 10 km per day to get fresh water. ReconAfrica started a community water well program to provide access to large underground water aquifer. Four community water wells were provided by the company with plans for 20 more. Of the 20 additional water wells, eight locations have been selected.

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2. PRET/JBURG will liaise with ReconAfrica for mission's trip to Namibia on 21/22 October.

Drafted: WER/Gendron

Approved: WGM

# KAVANGO BASIN: Exploring New Opportunities



**Recon**AFRICA

RECO : TSXV ; RECAF : OTCQX

Sept 2021

# RECONAFRICA



- ReconAfrica is a Canadian oil and gas company that has developed partnerships with the governments of Namibia and Botswana to engage in the exploration and development of oil and gas resources in the Kavango Sedimentary Basin
- Operations office in Calgary with head offices in Vancouver and Rundu, Namibia
- We are using proven, safe, and effective Canadian technologies and applying rigorous safety, environmental, water management and wildlife protection standards in all aspects of our operations



**Working together.**

RECO : TSXV ; RECAF : OTCQX



# COUNTERING FALSEHOODS

3

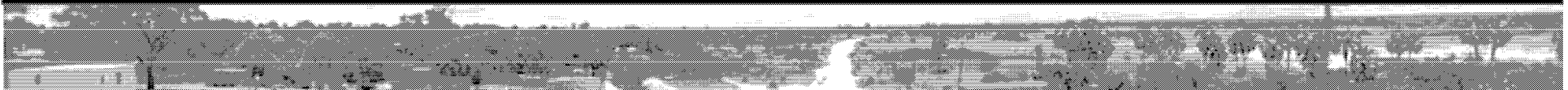
ReconAfrica has been responding to negative misinformation surrounding the project, and we were recently targeted by short sellers with false claims.

We firmly stand behind the following facts:

- Prominent geoscientists with decades of international experience and the government of Namibia have verified ReconAfrica's data, which confirms a working petroleum system
- ReconAfrica has put together a credible, experienced and world leading team to implement the most advanced drilling practices available to protect the environment above and below the surface. We are working with government, local communities and stakeholders to avoid ecologically sensitive and national preserve areas and water supplies
- ReconAfrica is not fracking. We have no license to produce oil or to engage in hydraulic fracturing. This is a conventional oil and gas resource
- ReconAfrica is committed to our ESG framework and we measure our performance against the highest global standards. If successful, this will be a socio-economically transformative project for Namibia and Botswana, and it will provide energy security to a currently energy impoverished region

RECO : TSXV ; RECAF : OTCQX

ReconAFRICA



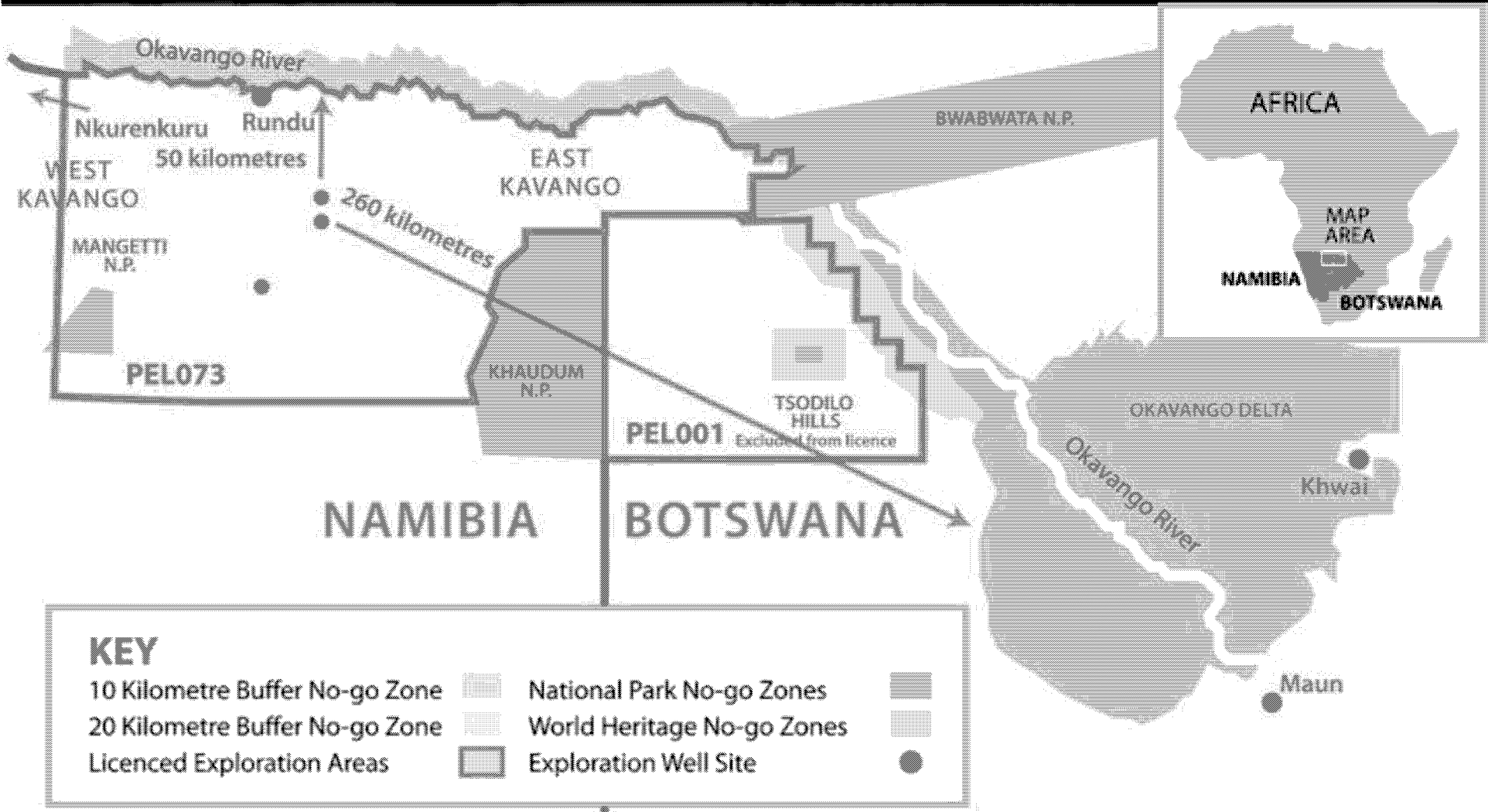
# KAVANGO BASIN

- ReconAfrica's licenses cover 6.3 million acres in Namibia and 2.2 million acres in Botswana. Total licensed land of 8.5 million acres
- One of the largest onshore undeveloped hydrocarbon basins in the world
- Stable democratic governments with environmental regulations
- World-leading technical team with in-depth knowledge of the Basin
- First two wells have confirmed active petroleum system, light oil and high BTU natural gas shows, exceeding pre-drill expectations
- Should oil and gas be commercialized, Namibia's traditional authorities and its elected governments will determine how it will manage those resources

RECO : TSXV ; RECAF : OTCQX



# REGIONAL MAP

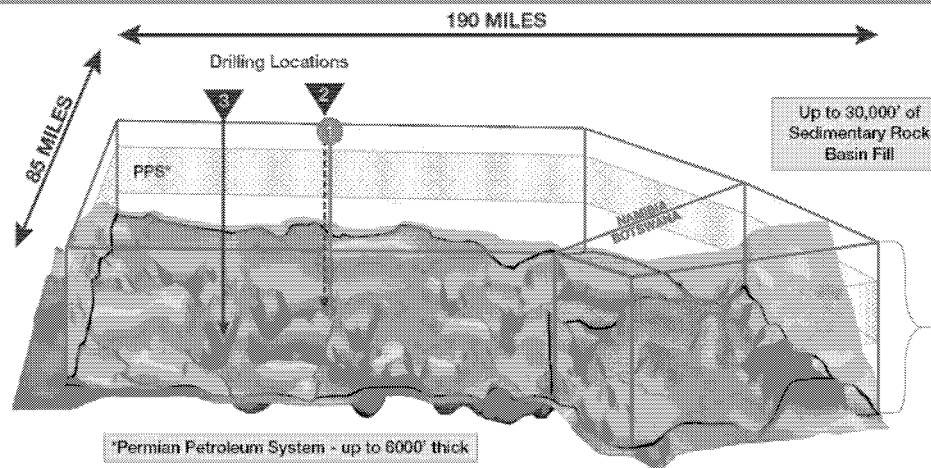


RECO : TSXV ; RECAF : OTCQX



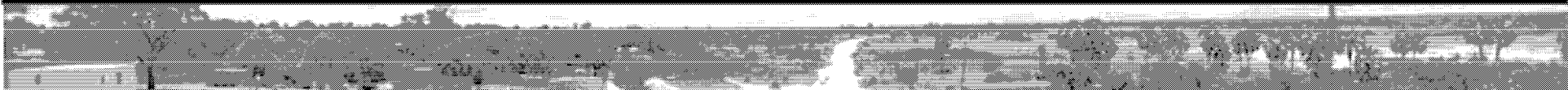


# PROJECT HISTORY



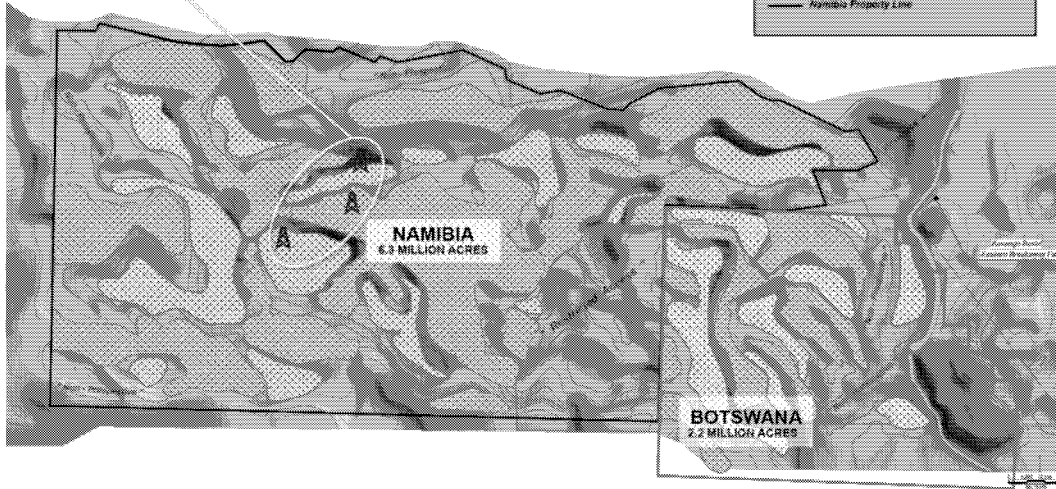
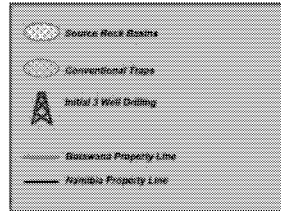
- The ST-1 Well from the 1960's showed evidence of a Permian aged source rock. Worldwide, Permian age rock has generated prolific petroleum systems
- Government sponsored aeromag survey and regional data indicates the Kavango Basin deepens to the East, towards Botswana
- Top geophysicist interpreted data and reported strong evidence of a 30,000ft sedimentary basin.
- Results of stratigraphic test wells to date have confirmed an active petroleum system

RECO : TSXV ; RECAF : OTCQX



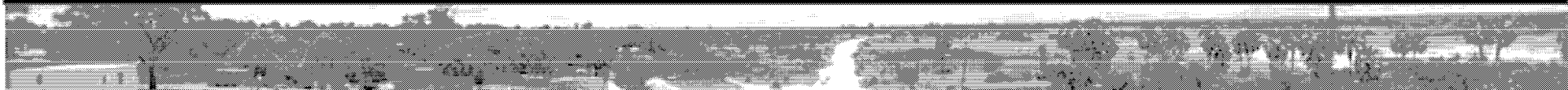
# PROJECT OVERVIEW

- INITIAL 3 WELL DRILLING PROGRAM
- To Establish an Active Hydrocarbon System
- Source Rock Basins and Conventional Traps



- ReconAfrica's drilling campaign began in Q1 2021 and targets three to six wells in the coming year
- Acquisition program of first 2D seismic in the basin initiated
- The objective is to confirm conventional oil and gas opportunities using integrated subsurface data
  - Airborne geophysical
  - Stratigraphic test wells
  - 2D seismic

RECO : TSXV ; RECAF : OTCQX





# CANADIAN TECHNOLOGY



- Canadian technology exported to the Kavango Region to protect region's wildlife
- Low intensity Polaris Explorer 860 seismic acquisition tractor, designed for environmentally sensitive areas
- Lowest impact seismic acquisition equipment in the world. Weight drop system with no dynamite
- 2D seismic pushes soundwaves directly down rather than outward and uses a low frequency
- Conducted under the guidance of local conservationists and along existing roadways during daylight hours to minimize disturbance

RECO : TSXV ; RECAF : OTCQX

ReconAFRICA

# ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

*“Protecting the environment is a top concern, along with the safety of our people and making sure we do no harm.”*

*– Scot Evans, CEO*

- **Strict adherence to regulations and international environmental best practices**
- **No drilling or seismic activity in environmental sensitive areas, local ecosystems will be protected. 250km from Okavango Delta, environmentally sensitive buffer zones created and no activity in national parks.**
- **Working in concert with all relevant government ministries, traditional authorities and stakeholders and incorporating local knowledge**
- **Environmental Consultation Process**
- **Comprehensive stakeholder consultation, environmental impact assessments and environmental management plans for all projects and activities**
- **Received drilling Environment Clearance Certificate (ECC) in August 2019 and ECC for seismic in July 2021**

RECO : TSXV ; RECAF : OTCQX

ReconAFRICA

# ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT

10

## Best Available Control Technology

- Kavango is a conventional hydrocarbon system. It will not require fracking or large amounts of water
- Minimal deforestation due to ability to work along existing roads and tracks
- New Canadian technologies being used to make the process more efficient and less intrusive
- Drilling mud is 100% water-organic based and biodegradable and reserve pit is treated with an organic permeability solution and easy to reclaim, and used, as appropriate, fertilizer for local agriculture initiatives
- Low-impact seismic and avoiding sensitive areas and migratory routes to protect wildlife

## Restoration, Enhancement and GHG Offsetting

- Regenerative agriculture and desert greening
- Reforestation initiative to produce carbon offsets
- Developing plan to support carbon-neutrality goals

RECO : TSXV ; RECAF : OTCQX

ReconAFRICA

# SOCIO-ECONOMIC BENEFITS



- Active engagement with local communities to provide meaningful socio-economic benefits
- Kavango among the poorest regions of Namibia. Official unemployment number often over 40%
- ReconAfrica has put in place a strong local hiring and training policy and we are actively supporting higher levels of education
- To date, ReconAfrica has hired over 225 local workers to execute its drilling program
- Polaris expects to hire and train 100 local workers for seismic program.
- If successful, this development would transform the economy and wealth of the country and offer energy security for Namibia

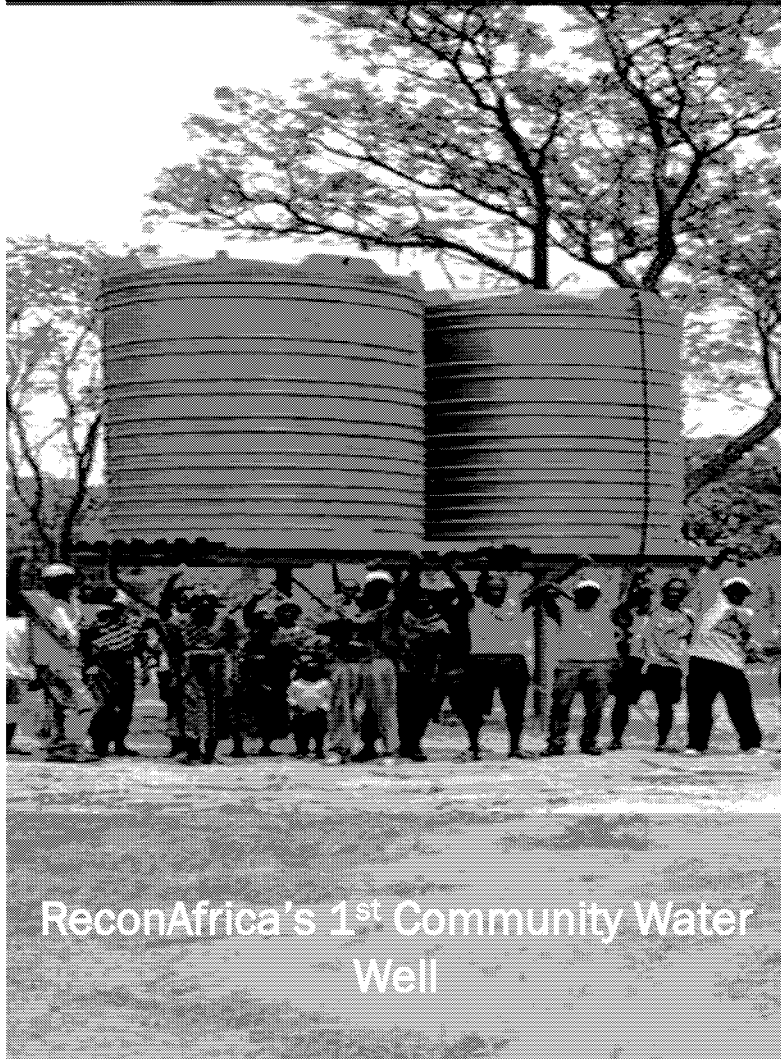
RECO : TSXV ; RECAF : OTCQX





# SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- ReconAfrica believes it's important to put resources directly into local community development, such as increased infrastructure, schools, potable water access and investments in environmental and wildlife conservation
- Access to water is challenging in the Kavango Region (Kalahari Desert.) Locals in the region walk up to 10 km per day for fresh water. We started an ongoing community water well program to provide access to large underground water aquifer. 4 wells drilled with plans for 20 more
- Best drilling practices and water management plan in place to protect aquifers and surface water
- Sustainable development is core to the business of ReconAfrica. ReconAfrica has ESG and carbon neutral GHG emissions platforms in place to ensure safe, sustainable development of the resource

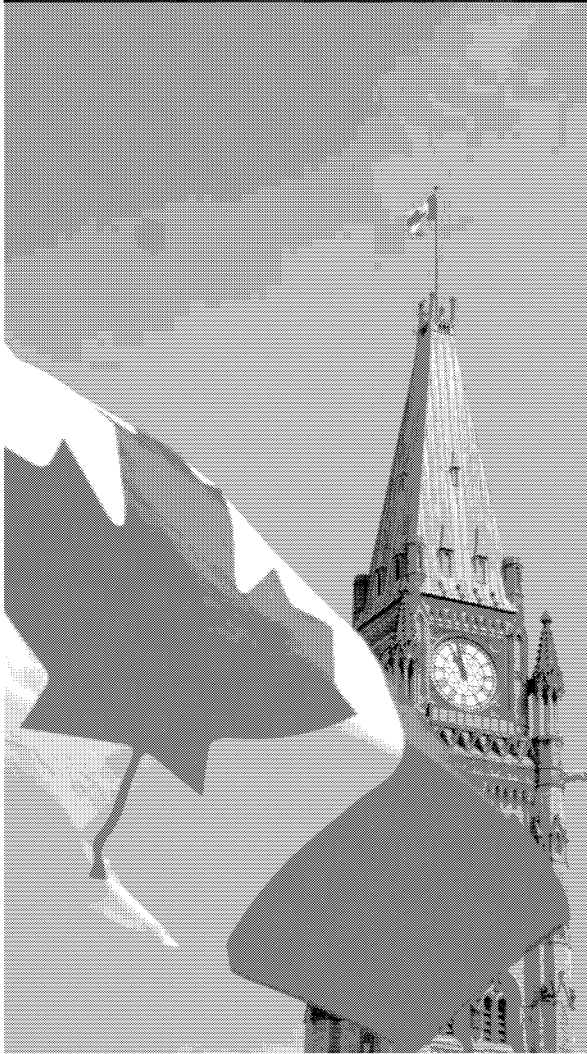


ReconAfrica's 1<sup>st</sup> Community Water Well

RECO : TSXV ; RECAF : OTCQX



# CANADIAN ECONOMIC BENEFITS



- Creation of dozens jobs at the head office in Vancouver and Operations Office in Calgary
- If commercially successful, we expect 100s of millions of dollars in direct and indirect economic activity and tax revenue repatriated to Canadian governments on a yearly basis
- Downstream economic benefits for Canadian equipment and services providers that will result in job creation and millions of dollars in economic growth
- Canadian companies are the focus of our procurement and project development plans

## Spin-Off Opportunities for Canadian Companies:

- Mapping and tracking systems for wildlife and agriculture
- Net zero development and offsets projects with implementation
- Specialised PPE
- Exploration and analysis testing equipment
- Engineering – numerous areas
- Seismic equipment and services
- HSE management and documentation
- Accounting services
- IT and IT protection services
- Environmental site technology
- Sustainable HSE systems and management
- Geology and mapping
- Database and dashboard development
- PR/Communications, government relations

RECO : TSXV ; RECAF : OTCQX



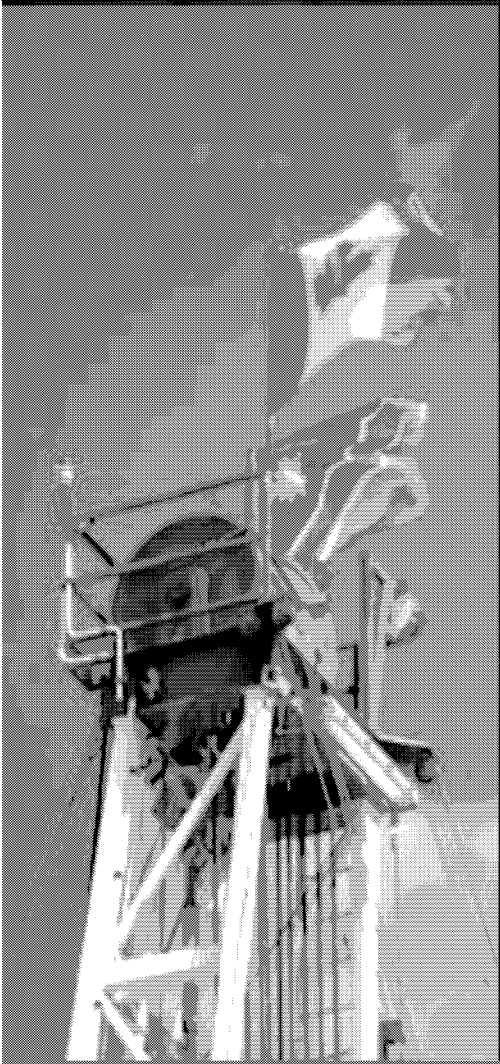
# CANADIAN TRADE COMMISSIONER

- Regular contact with Canadian High Commission representatives in South Africa, including Head of Mission, and Head of Office, as well as Trade Commission Service representatives from Edmonton, Calgary, Vancouver, Ottawa and representatives from the Responsible Business Practices (RBC)
- Strong working relationship. We have had seven meetings with Trade Commission representatives since December 2020 and these meetings have all been positive
- Proactive approach in sharing information and updates
- Open and transparent approach with interested stakeholders
- We ensure to focus on their areas of interest and answer all queries either in meetings and/or in follow-up emails

RECO : TSXV ; RECAF : OTCQX

ReconAFRICA

# MOVING FORWARD



We believe in sustainable resource development, and we want to get this right from the start. We are developing internationally recognized ESG performance metrics and a strategic plan for social innovation and environmental enhancement opportunities. We intend to work closely with organizations like the South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA), the Permanent Okavango River Basin Water Commission (OKACOM), and Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation (IRDNC).

ReconAfrica is proud to be showcasing Canadian values, innovation and clean technologies. We are reinforcing Canada's reputation as a leader in sustainable development on the world stage.

## How can you help?

- We are formulating ESG projects and setting up a fund for ESG investments in the region. Do you have any recommendations for NGOs, ENGOs or Canadian civil society organizations working in Sub-Saharan Africa that we could reach out to or partner with?
- Can you help us establish relationships with Canadian federal officials in case we experience challenges?
- Do you have any suggestion for who else we should meet with?

RECO : TSXV ; RECAF : OTCQX

ReconAFRICA





# Thank You

We appreciate your time and any assistance that you  
may be able to offer

**Will Adams**  
Intuit Government Relations  
adamswj@intuitinc.org  
(614) 914-1584

**Hon. Diana McQueen**  
SVP, Corporate Communications and  
Stakeholder Relations  
diana.mcqueen@reconafrika.com  
(780) 898-9617



**Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER**

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER  
**Sent:** September 29, 2021 2:21 PM  
**To:** Richardson, Beth -WER  
**Subject:** RE: FOR WED APPROVAL: WER Response to oMINT Request on ReconAfrica (Oct 4 at 12PM)

Thanks Beth.  
 Gen asked us to send it to DMT Policy.  
 I will send it to them now.  
 Claude

---

**From:** Richardson, Beth -WER <Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 29, 2021 2:17 PM  
**To:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>; Rymek, Michael -WED <Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>; Allan, James -WER <James.Allan@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: FOR WED APPROVAL: WER Response to oMINT Request on ReconAfrica (Oct 4 at 12PM)

Michael, I did tell Claude to send to you but given the brevity and the fact that WGM approved the note, Claude, I think you can proceed directly to send to Gen. Please copy me and Tamara.

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 29, 2021 2:16 PM  
**To:** Rymek, Michael -WED <Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Richardson, Beth -WER <Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca>; Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>; Allan, James -WER <James.Allan@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** FOR WED APPROVAL: WER Response to oMINT Request on ReconAfrica (Oct 4 at 12PM)

Michael,

Please find below for WED approval WER response to oMINT request for an update on ReconAfrica.

Attached is the WGM-approved readout of the meeting with ReconAfrica on Sept 23.

Claude

| <b>WED Approval Form</b> |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Request from             | oMINT   |
| Due date                 | Oct 4 at 12PM (due to oDMT Policy)                            |
| Drafted by               | WER/Gendron   |
| Consulted with           | Not required  |
| Approved by              | WER/Richardson  |
| Object                   | Suggested response to oMINT request for update on ReconAfrica |
| Comment                  | Attached readout has been approved by WGM                     |

\*\*\*\*\* WER RESPONSE TO OMINT \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Gen,

Thank you for your request for an update on ReconAfrica. WGM met with the company on September 23. A readout is attached. We have not had other engagements with the company since oMINT met a representative in August.

JBURG is planning a site visit to Namibia on 21 and 22 October to meet with ReconAfrica staff in Rundu and will travel to one of the drilling sites.

Regards,  
Claude

---

**From:** Fletcher, Genevieve -MINT <[Genevieve.Fletcher@international.gc.ca](mailto:Genevieve.Fletcher@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** September 27, 2021 2:17 PM  
**To:** Richardson, Beth -WER <[Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca](mailto:Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** \*MINT-Dept Unit/Unité ministérielle <[D-MINT-Dept-Unit@international.gc.ca](mailto:D-MINT-Dept-Unit@international.gc.ca)>; Moran, Chris -BPD <[Chris.Moran@international.gc.ca](mailto:Chris.Moran@international.gc.ca)>; Vasiliev, Ilie -OSC <[Ilie.Vasiliev@international.gc.ca](mailto:Ilie.Vasiliev@international.gc.ca)>; Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>; Lunstead, Nicole -BPA <[Nicole.Lunstead@international.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Lunstead@international.gc.ca)>; \*DMT-Policy/Politiques <[D-DMT-Policy@international.gc.ca](mailto:D-DMT-Policy@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** oMINT Request on ReconAfrica (Oct 4 at 12PM)

Hello Beth and team,

I hope this message finds you well.

oMINT has requested a written update on ReconAfrica. As you may recall, oMINT/Rafik had a conversation with ReconAfrica prior to the election period. As such, he is looking for a few key bullets to have the latest information on the file. I understand that WGM recently met with ReconAfrica – perhaps there is a readout/report that might provide the most recent developments?

As a reminder, Minister Ng remains in her role, but since the caretaker convention still applies until a cabinet is formed and MINT is named, we ask that you please remain factual in your updates to the extent possible.

Please send the ADM-approved update to \*DMT-Policy by **Monday, Oct 4 at 12PM**.

Thank you very much in advance. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Gen

**Geneviève Fletcher**

Departmental Advisor | Conseillère ministérielle  
Office of the Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade  
Cabinet de la ministre de la Petite Entreprise, de la Promotion des exportations et du Commerce international  
[Genevieve.Fletcher@international.gc.ca](mailto:Genevieve.Fletcher@international.gc.ca)  
343-575-0258  
Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada  
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada



## Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER  
**Sent:** September 29, 2021 5:28 PM  
**To:** Desmarteau, Andrea -DMT  
**Subject:** RE: WER Response to oMINT Request on ReconAfrica

You too !

---

**From:** Desmarteau, Andrea -DMT <Andrea.Desmarteau@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 29, 2021 4:57 PM  
**To:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>; \*DMT-Policy/Politiques <D-DMT-Policy@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Moran, Chris -BPD <Chris.Moran@international.gc.ca>; St-Laurent, Carl -BPA <Carl.St-Laurent@international.gc.ca>; Lunstead, Nicole -BPA <Nicole.Lunstead@international.gc.ca>; Richardson, Beth -WER <Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca>; Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca>; Bordeleau, Amélie -WGM <Amelie.Bordeleau@international.gc.ca>; Rymek, Michael -WED <Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca>; Allan, James -WER <James.Allan@international.gc.ca>; Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: WER Response to oMINT Request on ReconAfrica

Thanks Claude,

The key points from the report were shared with oMINT.

Have a nice evening,  
Andrea

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 29, 2021 2:27 PM  
**To:** \*DMT-Policy/Politiques <D-DMT-Policy@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Moran, Chris -BPD <Chris.Moran@international.gc.ca>; St-Laurent, Carl -BPA <Carl.St-Laurent@international.gc.ca>; Lunstead, Nicole -BPA <Nicole.Lunstead@international.gc.ca>; Richardson, Beth -WER <Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca>; Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca>; Bordeleau, Amélie -WGM <Amelie.Bordeleau@international.gc.ca>; Rymek, Michael -WED <Michael.Rymek@international.gc.ca>; Allan, James -WER <James.Allan@international.gc.ca>; Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** WER Response to oMINT Request on ReconAfrica

Dear oDMT,

oMINT has requested an update on ReconAfrica.

WGM met with the company on September 23. A readout is attached. We have not had other engagements with the company since oMINT met a representative in August.

JBURG is planning a site visit to Namibia on 21 and 22 October to meet with ReconAfrica staff in Rundu and will travel to one of the drilling sites.

Regards,

Claude

**Claude Gendron, CITP**

Deputy Director (Commercial relations) | Directeur adjoint (relations commerciales)  
Southern and Eastern Africa Relations Division (WER) |  
Direction des relations avec l'Afrique australe et de l'Est (WER)  
Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada  
Cell.: 613.301.3508



---

**From:** Fletcher, Genevieve -MINT <[Genevieve.Fletcher@international.gc.ca](mailto:Genevieve.Fletcher@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** September 27, 2021 2:17 PM  
**To:** Richardson, Beth -WER <[Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca](mailto:Beth.Richardson@international.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** \*MINT-Dept Unit/Unité ministérielle <[D-MINT-Dept-Unit@international.gc.ca](mailto:D-MINT-Dept-Unit@international.gc.ca)>; Moran, Chris -BPD <[Chris.Moran@international.gc.ca](mailto:Chris.Moran@international.gc.ca)>; Vasiliev, Ilie -OSC <[Ilie.Vasiliev@international.gc.ca](mailto:Ilie.Vasiliev@international.gc.ca)>; Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>; Lunstead, Nicole -BPA <[Nicole.Lunstead@international.gc.ca](mailto:Nicole.Lunstead@international.gc.ca)>; \*DMT-Policy/Politiques <[D-DMT-Policy@international.gc.ca](mailto:D-DMT-Policy@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** oMINT Request on ReconAfrica (Oct 4 at 12PM)

Hello Beth and team,

I hope this message finds you well.

oMINT has requested a written update on ReconAfrica. As you may recall, oMINT/Rafik had a conversation with ReconAfrica prior to the election period. As such, he is looking for a few key bullets to have the latest information on the file. I understand that WGM recently met with ReconAfrica – perhaps there is a readout/report that might provide the most recent developments?

As a reminder, Minister Ng remains in her role, but since the caretaker convention still applies until a cabinet is formed and MINT is named, we ask that you please remain factual in your updates to the extent possible.

Please send the ADM-approved update to \*DMT-Policy by **Monday, Oct 4 at 12PM**.

Thank you very much in advance. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Gen

**Geneviève Fletcher**

Departmental Advisor | Conseillère ministérielle  
Office of the Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade  
Cabinet de la ministre de la Petite Entreprise, de la Promotion des exportations et du Commerce international  
[Genevieve.Fletcher@international.gc.ca](mailto:Genevieve.Fletcher@international.gc.ca)  
343-575-0258  
Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada  
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada



**Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER**

---

**From:** Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM  
**Sent:** October 6, 2021 9:01 AM  
**To:** Gendron, Claude -WER  
**Cc:** Bordeleau, Amélie -WGM  
**Subject:** RE: ReconAfrica Sept 2021

Excuse moi je réalise que je n'avais pas répondu – parfait pour nous, merci Claude!

---

**De :** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
**Envoyé :** 4 octobre 2021 12:31  
**À :** Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc :** Bordeleau, Amélie -WGM <Amelie.Bordeleau@international.gc.ca>  
**Objet :** RE: ReconAfrica Sept 2021

Je n'ai pas eu la chance de faire un suivi sur ce dossier depuis.  
Puis-je suggérer que vous répondiez à Will en lui indiquant que Claude Gendron, copié, va assurer le suivi de sa demande.  
Je vais ensuite contacter Jeea, JBURG et PRET pour identifier des noms à leur recommander.  
Claude

---

**From:** Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** October 4, 2021 12:06 PM  
**To:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Bordeleau, Amélie -WGM <Amelie.Bordeleau@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** TR: ReconAfrica Sept 2021

Salut Claude – j'espère que tu as passé un bon weekend.

Avant de me tourner vers Mala, est-ce qu'il y a des intervenants à ta connaissance avec qui il serait pertinent de les mettre en contact?

Merci!  
M

---

**From:** Will Adams  
**Sent:** October 1, 2021 3:26 PM  
**To:** Lalonde, Sarah -WGM <Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** Re: ReconAfrica Sept 2021.pptx

Sarah,

Just following up our meeting with Mala.

She mentioned that she would think about other pertinent people we should meet with.

Is there someone at International Development we could engage with?

**Will Adams**  
Government Relations  
INTUIT

---

[613.914.1584](tel:613.914.1584)

On Sep 22, 2021, at 2:09 PM, [Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca](mailto:Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca) wrote:

Hi Will,

I've attached it to the meeting invite and have flagged to participants on our end.

Thanks again!

*Sarah Lalonde*

Administrative Officer, Executive Services | Agente Administrative, Services Exécutifs  
Office of the Assistant Deputy Minister (WGM) | Bureau de la Sous-ministre adjointe (WGM)  
Sub-Saharan Africa Branch | Secteur de l'Afrique subsaharienne  
125 Sussex, Ottawa ON K1A 0G2  
Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada  
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

Telephone | Téléphone +1.613.290.7385

[sarah.lalonde@international.gc.ca](mailto:sarah.lalonde@international.gc.ca)

<image001.jpg>

---

**From:** Will Adams <  
**Sent:** September 22, 2021 1:07 PM  
**To:** Lalonde, Sarah -WGM <[Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca](mailto:Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** ReconAfrica Sept 2021.pptx

Sarah - see attached deck for tomorrow's meeting. Let me know that you have received

**Will Adams**  
Government Relations  
INTUIT

---

[613.914.1584](tel:613.914.1584)



## Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER  
**Sent:** October 12, 2021 11:11 AM  
**To:** Anctil, Karel -WER  
**Subject:** RE: ReconAfrica Sept 2021.pptx

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Due By:** October 14, 2021 11:00 PM  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Tu peux appeler Keith pour lui demander et t'assurer que rien ne tombe entre les craques.  
On ne voudrait pas que Mala nous demande pourquoi on n'a pas fait de suivi


---

**From:** Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** October 12, 2021 10:40 AM  
**To:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: ReconAfrica Sept 2021.pptx

O.K!

Désolé! Je croyais que JBURG allait faire ce suivi directement avec ReconAfrican comme interlocuteur principal.

Je vais contacter PRET.

Karel Anctil  
Trade Commissioner | Délégué commercial  
Southern and Eastern Africa Bilateral Relations Division | Direction des relations bilatérales avec l'Afrique australe et de l'Est (WER)  
Email | Courriel : [karel.anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:karel.anctil@international.gc.ca)  
Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada  
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada  
 Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** October 12, 2021 11:30 PM  
**To:** Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: ReconAfrica Sept 2021.pptx

Stp check avec Olivier qui est le contact à PRET qui s'occupe du multilatéral (ONU et développement) pertinents pour le suivi de la rencontre avec Recon.

---

**From:** Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** October 7, 2021 12:51 AM  
**To:** Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: ReconAfrica Sept 2021.pptx

Claude,

Les deux éléments de follow up sont :

Next steps: A number of follow-up items were identified during the meeting:

1. WER/JBURG to provide non-exhaustive list of NGOs, ENGOs, CSOs, and GoC officials (as needed) to ReconAfrica.
2. PRET/JBURG will liaise with ReconAfrica for mission's trip to Namibia on 21/22 October.

Pour le message, je dois admettre que je ne connais pas qui pourraient être les interlocuteurs potentiels pour ReconAfrica au Canada en plus de ceux qu'ils ont déjà.

Il parler de contacts à International développement dans son message et est-ce à nous qu'il fait référence, du moins au Canada?

JBURG serait mieux placé pour dire avec qui ils devraient parler en Namibie ou dans la région et les noms/contacts details de ces personnes.

Dans to rapport : During the meeting requested by ReconAfrica with PRMNY/HOM/Rae on August 25, the Ambassador recommended that ReconAfrica reps engage with UN Resident coordinators in Namibia and Botswana. ReconAfrica thanked PRET-HOM for having followed-up with relevant contacts. [PRET-HOM also proposed ReconAfrica call on UN and key missions in Namibia, Germany, the US, and the UK](#), as those missions will likely raise the concerns they are hearing from their organizations such as NGOs, UNESCO, and IUCN. Concerns from the international community could mount as we approach COP26.

Est-ce que tu venus que je contacte JBURG pour obtenir cette information et tu vas envoyer le message ou préfères-tu les mettre en contact direct avec JBURG?

C'est pas clair pour moi ce qu'il veut et pour quel objectif.

Karel Anctil

Trade Commissioner | Délégué commercial

Southern and Eastern Africa Bilateral Relations Division | Direction des relations bilatérales avec l'Afrique australe et de l'Est (WER)

Email | Courriel : [karel.anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:karel.anctil@international.gc.ca)

Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada

Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada



Global Affairs  
Canada

Affaires mondiales  
Canada

---

**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>

**Sent:** October 6, 2021 10:33 PM

**To:** Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** FW: ReconAfrica Sept 2021.pptx

Karel,

L'équipe de ReconAfrica voudrait avec tes contacts.

Peux tu me préparer un message de réponse à leur endroit avec une liste de suggestion.

Aussi, stp revoit le rapport de la rencontre avec Mala que j'avais produit et voir les suivis qui sont à faire.

Claude

---

**From:** Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <[Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca](mailto:Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** October 6, 2021 9:03 AM  
**To:** ;  
**Cc:** Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: ReconAfrica Sept 2021.pptx

Bonjour Mr Adams,

I hope you are doing good. My colleague Claude, cced, attended the meeting as well and will follow up with you on recommendations.

Best regards,  
Mathilde

**Mathilde Sénéchal**

Senior Advisor | Conseillère senior  
Office of the Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM) | Bureau de la sous-ministre adjointe (SMA)  
Sub-Saharan Africa | Afrique sub-Saharienne (WGM)  
Tel. : 343-548-7723



Global Affairs    Affaires mondiales  
Canada            Canada

---

**From:** Will Adams <  
**Sent:** October 1, 2021 3:26 PM  
**To:** Lalonde, Sarah -WGM <[Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca](mailto:Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Re: ReconAfrica Sept 2021.pptx

Sarah,

Just following up our meeting with Mala.

She mentioned that she would think about other pertinent people we should meet with.

Is there someone at International Development we could engage with?

**Will Adams**  
Government Relations  
INTUIT

---

[613.914.1584](tel:613.914.1584)

On Sep 22, 2021, at 2:09 PM, [Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca](mailto:Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca) wrote:

Hi Will,

I've attached it to the meeting invite and have flagged to participants on our end.

Thanks again!

*Sarah Lalonde*

Administrative Officer, Executive Services | Agente Administrative, Services Exécutifs  
Office of the Assistant Deputy Minister (WGM) | Bureau de la Sous-ministre adjointe (WGM)  
Sub-Saharan Africa Branch | Secteur de l'Afrique subsaharienne  
125 Sussex, Ottawa ON K1A 0G2  
Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada  
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

Telephone | Téléphone +1.613.290.7385

[sarah.lalonde@international.gc.ca](mailto:sarah.lalonde@international.gc.ca)

<image001.jpg>

---

**From:** Will Adams  
**Sent:** September 22, 2021 1:07 PM  
**To:** Lalonde, Sarah -WGM <[Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca](mailto:Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** ReconAfrica Sept 2021.pptx

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**Will Adams**  
Government Relations

INTUIT

---

[613.914.1584](tel:613.914.1584)

**Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER**

---

**From:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD  
**Sent:** October 14, 2021 4:50 PM  
**To:** '  
**Cc:** Anctil, Karel -WER  
**Subject:** RE: ReconAfrica Sept 2021.pptx

Dear Mr Adams

I am the Trade Commissioner for Mining, Oil and Gas in the Johannesburg office of the Trade Commissioner Service. We also cover Namibia.

Here are suggested NGOs ReconAfrica may want to engage with in Namibia. This is a limited list because we don't necessarily engage ourselves with many NGOs who may be useful for Recon to engage. These contacts below are not necessarily contacts we engage with ourselves. I am travelling to Namibia on Sunday and will be there for 10days, including meeting with Scot and Diana from Recon, in Rundu. I will talk with other contacts there about who they recommend would be good stakeholders to engage with. I will then share any useful insights with ReconAfrica and you.

- Legal Assistance Centre – <http://www.lac.org.na/>  
- Land, Environment and Development Project -
- Chamber of Environment (I think some of the ReconAfrica team have already been in touch with this Chamber but I am just including them as an important local environmental NGO) - <https://n-c-e.org/>

Chris Brown: CEO - [ceo@n-c-e.org](mailto:ceo@n-c-e.org)

- WWF Namibia - <https://www.worldwildlife.org/places/namibia>  
- Senior Conservation Scientist and Lead Wildlife Scientist – unsure of email – try

The Head of the Development Programme in the High Commission of Canada in Pretoria (also covering Namibia) is Carine Khawam - [Carine.Khawam@international.gc.ca](mailto:Carine.Khawam@international.gc.ca). She arrived fairly recently in South Africa and I'm also not sure exactly what her role covers in terms of engaging on development more broadly or only on projects the High Commission supports.

I will speak with Scot and Diana late next week when I visit the ReconAfrica office in Rundu and then will discuss whatever additional information they may request.

Thank you  
Kind regards

**JP van der Merwe**

Trade Commissioner | Délégué commercial

High Commission of Canada, Trade Office | Haut-commissariat du Canada, Bureau commercial

Email: [Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)

Tel: +27 11 442 3130

M: +27 60 929 4983

Cradock Place, 10 Arnold Road, Rosebank, South Africa

P.O.Box 522297, Saxonwold, 2132

Johannesburg, South Africa

High Commission of Canada | Haut-commissariat du Canada

[www.southafrica.gc.ca](http://www.southafrica.gc.ca) | [www.afriquedusud.gc.ca](http://www.afriquedusud.gc.ca)

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---

**From:** Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <[Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca](mailto:Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca)>

**Sent:** October 6, 2021 9:03 AM

**To:**

**Cc:** Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: ReconAfrica Sept 2021.pptx

Bonjour Mr Adams,

I hope you are doing good. My colleague Claude, cced, attended the meeting as well and will follow up with you on recommendations.

Best regards,  
Mathilde

**Mathilde Sénéchal**

Senior Advisor | Conseillère senior

Office of the Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM) | Bureau de la sous-ministre adjointe (SMA)

Sub-Saharan Africa | Afrique sub-Saharienne (WGM)

Tel. : 343-548-7723

---

**From:** Will Adams <

**Sent:** October 1, 2021 3:26 PM

**To:** Lalonde, Sarah -WGM <[Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca](mailto:Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** Re: ReconAfrica Sept 2021.pptx

Sarah,

Just following up our meeting with Mala.

She mentioned that she would think about other pertinent people we should meet with.

Is there someone at International Development we could engage with?

**Will Adams**

Government Relations

INTUIT

---

[613.914.1584](tel:613.914.1584)

On Sep 22, 2021, at 2:09 PM, [Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca](mailto:Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca) wrote:

Hi Will,

I've attached it to the meeting invite and have flagged to participants on our end.

Thanks again!

*Sarah Lalonde*

Administrative Officer, Executive Services | Agente Administrative, Services Exécutifs  
Office of the Assistant Deputy Minister (WGM) | Bureau de la Sous-ministre adjointe (WGM)  
Sub-Saharan Africa Branch | Secteur de l'Afrique subsaharienne  
125 Sussex, Ottawa ON K1A 0G2  
Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada  
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

Telephone | Téléphone +1.613.290.7385

[sarah.lalonde@international.gc.ca](mailto:sarah.lalonde@international.gc.ca)

<image001.jpg>

---

**From:** Will Adams <[will.adams@international.gc.ca](mailto:will.adams@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** September 22, 2021 1:07 PM  
**To:** Lalonde, Sarah -WGM <[Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca](mailto:Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** ReconAfrica Sept 2021.pptx

Sarah - see attached deck for tomorrow's meeting. Let me know that you have received

**Will Adams**  
Government Relations  
INTUIT

---

[613.914.1584](tel:6139141584)

**Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER**

---

**From:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD  
**Sent:** October 14, 2021 4:54 PM  
**To:** Anctil, Karel -WER  
**Cc:** Edwards, Allan -JBURG -TD; Gendron, Claude -WER; Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD  
**Subject:** RE: ReconAfrica Sept 2021.pptx

Hi Karel

As you would have seen, I have sent Will some additional NGOs ReconAfrica could consult and the email address of the Head of the Development Programme in PRET.

As laid out to Will, the Head of the Development Programme in the High Commission of Canada in Pretoria (also covering Namibia) is Carine Khawam - [Carine.Khawam@international.gc.ca](mailto:Carine.Khawam@international.gc.ca). She arrived fairly recently in South Africa and I'm also not sure exactly what her role covers in terms of engaging on development more broadly or only on projects the High Commission supports.

I will look to try and engage other missions in Namibia next week when I am there, if I am able to add this to my schedule, to see how they may seek to engage with ReconAfrica and what their views may be.

The HOM will no longer be joining me in Namibia.

I will be meeting with Recon's CEO Scot Evans and their VP for Gov Relations and Comms, Diana McQueen on Thursday next week.

Kind regards  
JP

---

**From:** Anctil, Karel -WER <Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** October 14, 2021 3:27 AM  
**To:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Edwards, Allan -JBURG -TD <Allan.Edwards@international.gc.ca>; Gendron, Claude -WER <Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca>; Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD <Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: ReconAfrica Sept 2021.pptx

Hi JP,

The information shared by Keith was already share by PRMNY to Will Adan following the meeting with Bob Rae on August 25.

Regarding development, please contact either your FPDS colleague in PRET or a development officer on the ground and confirm that they are the contact person on dev. Files for Namibia (I don't know who is responsible for what files at your mission). They want to talk to people who potentially can help them in the region.

Regarding contact with other missions, I think it is worth talking to your counterparts managing similar files at these Embassies and maybe give them a heads up that a Canadian company might contact them.

Will is from Intuit but working for ReconAfrica.

wee still need to provide some follow to our ADM's office so I propose the following.



-Please confirm and send my way the contact info of the person at our High commission dealing with development related files (FPDS or Dev officer) for Namibia/region.

-Please also send me the contact information of officers dealing with mining/csr at Germany, the US, and the UK Embassies/High commission (Either in Namibia or SA). (You can see this as an opportunity to introduce yourself if it is not already done)

Ultimately, it is up to you how you want to gather this information (I get that you don't have much time left before your trip) but, if you can send me a few key contacts, I will write a follow up message to Mala including this information and highlight the fact that you are going there next week to talk directly with the company.

Can you also confirm if the HOM is going?

Thanks!

Karel Anctil  
Trade Commissioner | Délégué commercial  
Southern and Eastern Africa Bilateral Relations Division | Direction des relations bilatérales avec l'Afrique australe et de l'Est (WER)  
Email | Courriel : [karel.anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:karel.anctil@international.gc.ca)  
Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada  
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

---

**From:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <[Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** October 13, 2021 7:39 PM  
**To:** Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>; Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD <[Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca](mailto:Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Edwards, Allan -JBURG -TD <[Allan.Edwards@international.gc.ca](mailto:Allan.Edwards@international.gc.ca)>; Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: ReconAfrica Sept 2021.pptx

Dear Karel

Thank you for your email. Please feel free to direct your queries about ReconAfrica to me (with Allan and Keith in copy), given the company is one of the files I am responsible for.

As Keith had found out, the two Permanent UN Residents in Namibia and Botswana are:

Namibia = Sen Pang ;

Botswana = Zia Choudhury ;

Keith found the email addresses here: <https://data.uninfo.org/Home/LBRCList>

Have you shared those two contacts with them?

I will follow-up with Will Adams with some other suggested civil society contacts in Namibia. In terms of International Development contacts, I'm not sure if they meant someone from an international NGO or from the Development teams at GAC. Please could you recommend who would be best for us to connect them with on the Development side at GAC head office, if we think this is necessary? And lastly, on other foreign missions in Namibia, I will send them links but I think its best that they approach these missions on their own. Is it necessary for us to provide direct contacts at the

EU/German missions etc? And I just wanted to be clear that Will Adams works for ReconAfrica through his company Intuit?

Lastly, just a reminder that I will be meeting with ReconAfrica next week, in Namibia at their offices in Rundu. I will meet with the CEO Scot Evans and their local Namibia team. I can remind them of any contacts they may want at that stage.

Kind regards  
JP

---

**From:** Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** October 13, 2021 5:03 AM  
**To:** Banerjee, Keith -JBURG -TD <[Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca](mailto:Keith.Banerjee@international.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Edwards, Allan -JBURG -TD <[Allan.Edwards@international.gc.ca](mailto:Allan.Edwards@international.gc.ca)>; Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <[Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)>; Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: ReconAfrica Sept 2021.pptx  
**Importance:** High

Hi Keith,

The ADM would like to confirm the follow up the meeting with ReconAfrica after we received a message to that effect from them. See message below from Will Adam.

He is talking about international development peoples and I would think he is referring to people/agencies on the ground in Namibia.

Also, the follow up items of the meeting were mentioning: During the meeting requested by ReconAfrica with PRMNY/HOM/Rae on August 25, the Ambassador recommended that ReconAfrica reps engage with UN Resident coordinators in Namibia and Botswana. ReconAfrica thanked PRET-HOM for having followed-up with relevant contacts. PRET-HOM also proposed ReconAfrica call on UN and key missions in Namibia, Germany, the US, and the UK, as those missions will likely raise the concerns they are hearing from their organizations such as NGOs, UNESCO, and IUCN. Concerns from the international community could mount as we approach COP26.

I thought JBURG would follow up directly with the company but I clearly did not follow up with you to let you know that they are looking for this information.

Will it be possible for JBURG to contact Will Adams directly ASAP to provide the information he is requesting?

It may be a better approach to make Will deal directly with you; whenever possible.

Again, sorry for the delay in getting this to you!

Karel Anctil  
Trade Commissioner | Délégué commercial  
Southern and Eastern Africa Bilateral Relations Division | Direction des relations bilatérales avec l'Afrique australe et de l'Est (WER)  
Email | Courriel : [karel.anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:karel.anctil@international.gc.ca)  
Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada  
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

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**From:** Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** October 6, 2021 10:33 PM  
**To:** Anctil, Karel -WER <[Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca](mailto:Karel.Anctil@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: ReconAfrica Sept 2021.pptx

Karel,

L'équipe de ReconAfrica voudrait avec tes contacts.

Peux tu me préparer un message de réponse à leur endroit avec une liste de suggestion.

Aussi, stp revoit le rapport de la rencontre avec Mala que j'avais produit et voir les suivis qui sont à faire.

Claude

---

**From:** Sénéchal, Mathilde -WGM <[Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca](mailto:Mathilde.Senechal@international.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** October 6, 2021 9:03 AM  
**To:**  
**Cc:** Gendron, Claude -WER <[Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca](mailto:Claude.Gendron@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: ReconAfrica Sept 2021.pptx

Bonjour Mr Adams,

I hope you are doing good. My colleague Claude, cced, attended the meeting as well and will follow up with you on recommendations.

Best regards,  
Mathilde

**Mathilde Sénéchal**

Senior Advisor | Conseillère senior  
Office of the Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM) | Bureau de la sous-ministre adjointe (SMA)  
Sub-Saharan Africa | Afrique sub-Saharienne (WGM)  
Tel. : 343-548-7723

---

**From:** Will Adams <  
**Sent:** October 1, 2021 3:26 PM  
**To:** Lalonde, Sarah -WGM <[Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca](mailto:Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Re: ReconAfrica Sept 2021.pptx

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She mentioned that she would think about other pertinent people we should meet with.

Is there someone at International Development we could engage with?

**Will Adams**  
Government Relations  
INTUIT

---

[613.914.1584](tel:613.914.1584)

On Sep 22, 2021, at 2:09 PM, [Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca](mailto:Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca) wrote:

Hi Will,

I've attached it to the meeting invite and have flagged to participants on our end.

Thanks again!

*Sarah Lalonde*

Administrative Officer, Executive Services | Agente Administrative, Services Exécutifs  
Office of the Assistant Deputy Minister (WGM) | Bureau de la Sous-ministre adjointe (WGM)  
Sub-Saharan Africa Branch | Secteur de l'Afrique subsaharienne  
125 Sussex, Ottawa ON K1A 0G2  
Global Affairs Canada | Affaires mondiales Canada  
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

Telephone | Téléphone +1.613.290.7385  
[sarah.lalonde@international.gc.ca](mailto:sarah.lalonde@international.gc.ca)  
<image001.jpg>

---

**From:** Will Adams ·  
**Sent:** September 22, 2021 1:07 PM  
**To:** Lalonde, Sarah -WGM <[Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca](mailto:Sarah.Lalonde@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** ReconAfrica Sept 2021.pptx

Sarah - see attached deck for tomorrow's meeting. Let me know that you have received

**Will Adams**  
Government Relations  
INTUIT

---

[613.914.1584](tel:613.914.1584)

## Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER

---

**From:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD  
**Sent:** October 19, 2021 1:20 AM  
**To:** Edwards, Allan -JBURG -TD; Cooter, Chris -PRET -HOM/CDM  
**Cc:** Gendron, Claude -WER; Anctil, Karel -WER  
**Subject:** FW: Front page of the Nambian - ReconAfrica  
**Attachments:** 20211018\_105007.jpg

Morning Allan and HOM

Although we saw the Washington Post piece sent to us by Claude on Friday, the piece from Prince Harry also then made the front page of the Namibian yesterday morning. The newspaper was shown to me by Chris Brown - CEO of the the Namibian Chamber of Environment.

See the picture attached.

Kind regards  
JP

Sent from my Galaxy

----- Original message -----

From: JP van der Merwe ·  
Date: 2021-10-18 10:20 p.m. (GMT+02:00)  
To: "Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD" <Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca>  
Subject: Front page of the Nambian - ReconAfrica

See attached

INDEPENDENT  
REPORTING  
SINCE 1985

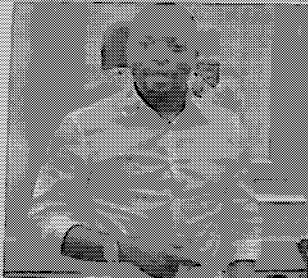
# the namibian



STILL TELLING IT LIKE IT IS!

Vol. 36 No. 36

N\$5 MONDAY 18 OCTOBER 2021



Titus Nakuumba

## Mass housing: Govt pays Nakuumba N\$25 million ... deal ends four-year battle, 360 houses still empty

• SONJA SMITH

THE government has agreed to pay N\$25 million to end a protracted legal dispute with businessman Titus Nakuumba's CalgroKuumba Planning and Design, stemming from its flopped mass housing initiative. The settlement agreement will mark the end of a dispute that lasted

four years.

CalgroKuumba Planning and Design was among a handful of politically connected entities to be awarded mass housing contracts.

The entities' initial 2013 contract involved building 1 200 low-cost houses at Windhoek's Otjomuise Extension 10, worth N\$350 million. The company only built 360

houses, which have been standing unoccupied since 2017 because they have not been connected to municipal services.

CalgroKuumba is a joint venture between a South African firm, Calgro M3, and Afrikaumba, owned by businessman Titus Nakuumba.

The settlement agreement, a copy of which is in the possession

of *The Namibian*, was drafted on 20 September this year.

The agreement states that the government shall pay a lump sum of N\$25 million to CalgroKuumba as a full and final settlement within 90 days after the agreement was signed.

NAKUUMBA: cont. on page 2

## Prince Harry condemns Kavango oil drilling

• TIMO SHIHEPO

IN an opinion article published in the Washington Post, Britain's Prince Harry warned that the ongoing oil drilling in Namibia's Kavango regions would lead to irreversible and devastating damage to the environment which supports the livelihoods of more than one million people.

He said the search for oil would only enrich a few.

The article was co-written by Reinhold Mangundu, a Namibian environmental scientist and activist, and was published on Thursday.

Canadian oil exploration company ReconAfrica is currently drilling for oil in the protected area that supplies the Okavango Delta with water.

The drilling exploration licence is for an area on the banks of the Okavango River in the newly proclaimed Kavango Zambesi Transfrontier Conservation Area, also called the Kaza Park.

In a region already facing exploitation, poaching, and wildfires, the risk of environmental harm from drilling and plowing new roads through the wilderness is even higher, Prince Harry and Mangundu pointed out.

"Knowing the above, why would you be drilling for oil in such a place?" they asked.

According to them, there is no way to repair the damage from "mistakes" such as these.

"Drilling is an outdated gamble that reaps disastrous consequences for many, and incredible riches for a powerful few. It represents a continued investment in fossil fuels instead of renewable energies," the article said.

Prince Harry, Princess Diana's younger son, has visited Namibia and Botswana several times.

"The Okavango River Basin is under siege by ReconAfrica . . ." Prince Harry and Mangundu wrote.

A series of six National Geographic articles published since last year has highlighted serious concerns about the oil-drilling development in the Kavango regions, including the possibility of groundwater pollution, and a lack of community consultation in accordance with Namibian law.

PRINCE HARRY  
: cont. on page 2

Some things in life are best left undisturbed to carry out their purpose as a natural benefit.  
- Prince Harry

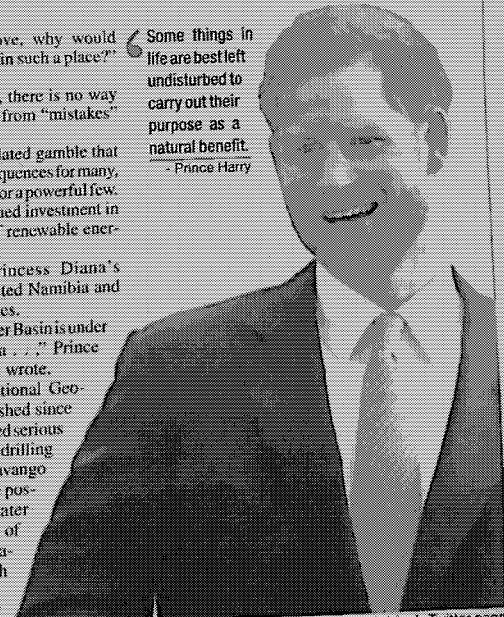


Photo: The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge's Twitter page



\* Photo for illustrative purposes Photo: Contributed

## The liquor store cashier down the street

• THERESIA TJIHENUNA

HE is wearing the same faded blue trousers and shirt, but wearing a different expression on his face today.

He's standing by the black, rusty gate next to a mural meant to attract thirsty customers.

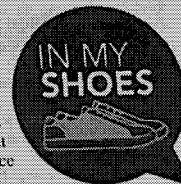
He seems lost in thought.

It won't be long before he heads back inside to sell someone a drink.

For now, he savours this moment, alone with his thoughts.

The noisy, barefooted children who normally run past the liquor store are indoors today.

LIQUOR STORE: continued on page 2



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## Lagacé-Roy, Alexia -WER

---

**From:** Diana McQueen <diana.mcqueen@ReconAfrica.com>  
**Sent:** October 20, 2021 4:42 PM  
**To:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD  
**Cc:** Rormose, Lilly -JBURG -TD; Claire Preece; Scot Evans; Diana McQueen  
**Subject:** Re: \*EXT\*RE: \*EXT\*RE: \*EXT\*RE: \*EXT\*RE: \*EXT\*Proposed visit to Namibia by Canadian Trade Commissioner

Hello Jan

Yes absolutely we can have a virtual call. We leave on this Friday and our Rundu team is ready to greet you and show you our Rig site, one of the 13 community water wells we have donated and some of the completed seismic if you like. Scot & I are also in Capetown for the African Energy Conference the week of Nov. 9 and if you are also there it would still be great to see you in person.

Please send the invite for 3pm to Scot & I.

Best and we look forward to catching up with you.

Diana

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 20, 2021, at 10:15 PM, Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca wrote:

Hi Diana,

Can we just make tomorrow's 3pm meeting a virtual one if you and Scot are not still in Namibia next week for an in-person meeting. I can send through a Teams invitation.

Kind regards

JP

Sent from my Galaxy

----- Original message -----

**From:** "Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD" <Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca>  
**Date:** 2021-10-20 9:19 p.m. (GMT+02:00)  
**To:** Diana McQueen <diana.mcqueen@ReconAfrica.com>  
**Cc:** "Rormose, Lilly -JBURG -TD" <Lilly.Rormose@international.gc.ca>, Claire Preece <claire.preece@ReconAfrica.com>  
**Subject:** RE: \*EXT\*RE: \*EXT\*RE: \*EXT\*RE: \*EXT\*Proposed visit to Namibia by Canadian Trade Commissioner

Dear Diana

Apologies, I have just realised I didn't read your email last Friday correctly. I, for some reason, missed your proposal to meet in Windhoek, tomorrow. As I said in my previous email, I have been making my way north from Windhoek, meeting with other Canadian companies. I met with B2Gold yesterday and today with Dundee. I am staying in Tsumeb tonight. So I won't be able to meet with Scot and you tomorrow in Windhoek. I apologise for this miscommunication.

I hope it is still possible to meet with your local team in Rundu on Friday though and visit the drilling sites?

When do you and Scot leave Namibia? If you're still in Windhoek next week, we could try and meet on Monday or on Tuesday.

Kind regards

**JP van der Merwe**

Trade Commissioner | Délégué commercial

High Commission of Canada, Trade Office | Haut-commissariat du Canada, Bureau commercial

Email: [Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)

Tel: +27 11 442 3130

M: +27 60 929 4983

Cradock Place, 10 Arnold Road, Rosebank, South Africa

P.O.Box 522297, Saxonwold, 2132

Johannesburg, South Africa

High Commission of Canada | Haut-commissariat du Canada

[www.southafrica.gc.ca](http://www.southafrica.gc.ca) | [www.afriquedusud.gc.ca](http://www.afriquedusud.gc.ca)



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---

**From:** Diana McQueen <diana.mcqueen@ReconAfrica.com>

**Sent:** October 15, 2021 1:37 PM

**To:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca>

**Cc:** Rormose, Lilly -JBURG -TD <Lilly.Rormose@international.gc.ca>; Claire Preece <claire.preece@ReconAfrica.com>; Diana McQueen <diana.mcqueen@ReconAfrica.com>

**Subject:** Re: \*EXT\*RE: \*EXT\*RE: \*EXT\*RE: \*EXT\*Proposed visit to Namibia by Canadian Trade Commissioner

Hello Jan

Thank you for the email.

If this works for you we will meet you in Windhoek on Thursday Oct.21 at 3pm at the AM Winberg hotel. (We will be in Rundu on Oct19/20 meeting with the 5 Traditional Authorities)

We will have our operations team meet with you at our office in Rundu and then they can take you to our two drilling sites, community water wells and seismic area if your time permits. I leave today for Namibia and arrive on Sunday morning, and Scot leaves Saturday and arrives on Monday morning.

Looking forward to meeting with you in person. Please let me know if you need anything else.

Safe travels,

Diana



Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 15, 2021, at 2:20 AM, [Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca) wrote:

Dear Diana

I'm not sure if you're already on your way to Namibia or in-country. I just wanted to firm up details for next week. What time should we plan our meeting for Thursday afternoon, 21 Oct. I am available anytime from probably 12:30pm onwards.

I also wanted to check if it is possible to visit one of the drill sites on Friday, 22 Oct, even if they aren't drilling at present? And if so, what would be the plan in terms of timing and getting there. I have my own hired car but if its easier to go with your team from Rundu, I am happy to do that.

Thank you  
Kind regards

**JP van der Merwe**

Trade Commissioner | Délégué commercial

High Commission of Canada, Trade Office | Haut-commissariat du Canada, Bureau commercial

Email: [Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)

Tel: +27 11 442 3130

M: +27 60 929 4983

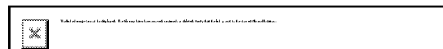
Cradock Place, 10 Arnold Road, Rosebank, South Africa

P.O.Box 522297, Saxonwold, 2132

Johannesburg, South Africa

High Commission of Canada | Haut-commissariat du Canada

[www.southafrica.gc.ca](http://www.southafrica.gc.ca) | [www.afriquedusud.gc.ca](http://www.afriquedusud.gc.ca)



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[Joindre MON SDC](#) / [Énoncé de confidentialité](#) / [Avis de divulgation](#) / [Trouvez un délégué commercial](#)

---

**From:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD

**Sent:** October 6, 2021 2:46 PM

**To:** 'Diana McQueen' <[diana.mcqueen@ReconAfrica.com](mailto:diana.mcqueen@ReconAfrica.com)>

**Cc:** Rormose, Lilly -JBURG -TD <[Lilly.Rormose@international.gc.ca](mailto:Lilly.Rormose@international.gc.ca)>; Claire Preece <[claire.preece@ReconAfrica.com](mailto:claire.preece@ReconAfrica.com)>

**Subject:** RE: \*EXT\*RE: \*EXT\*RE: \*EXT\*Proposed visit to Namibia by Canadian Trade Commissioner

Hi Diana

Thank you for your email. I won't unfortunately be able to attend any of your meetings on 19/20 October. I have other meetings scheduled on those days. And thank you for the advice on flights but I will be driving to other companies north of Windhoek and therefore I will be making my way closer to Rundu. The drive on Thursday to your offices will only be about 4 hours. I'd be interested to see the drill sites and community water wells, even if the drilling activity there has now ended. It would be interesting to get a sense of the area in which you have been operating. But I am happy to discuss the itinerary via an online call. Maybe this would be a good way to talk through logistics. Maybe we can plan this for tomorrow or early next week, so that you're more certain of your other engagements?

Kind regards

**JP van der Merwe**

Trade Commissioner | Délégué commercial

High Commission of Canada, Trade Office | Haut-commissariat du Canada, Bureau commercial

Email: [Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)

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**From:** Diana McQueen <[diana.mcqueen@ReconAfrica.com](mailto:diana.mcqueen@ReconAfrica.com)>

**Sent:** October 6, 2021 3:28 AM

**To:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD <[Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)>

**Cc:** Rormose, Lilly -JBURG -TD <[Lilly.Rormose@international.gc.ca](mailto:Lilly.Rormose@international.gc.ca)>; Claire Preece <[claire.preece@ReconAfrica.com](mailto:claire.preece@ReconAfrica.com)>; Diana McQueen <[diana.mcqueen@ReconAfrica.com](mailto:diana.mcqueen@ReconAfrica.com)>

**Subject:** Re: \*EXT\*RE: \*EXT\*RE: \*EXT\*Proposed visit to Namibia by Canadian Trade Commissioner

Hello Jan

I hope you are keeping well, it's great to hear from you. Scot & I and our Namibia team look forward to meeting with you on Thursday afternoon. I will follow up tomorrow with an exact time as we are just finalizing the itinerary today.

Rundu is about an 8 hour drive from Windhoek, however there are now commercial flights available again. We are going to be in Rundu on the 19/20 meeting with the 5 Traditional Authorities. We can however arrange for a site visit for you but just for your information we will have completed most of the seismic and there is no rig activity at this time. However our team would be most happy to show you the two rig sites, our

community water wells, and the seismic areas. If there is a way you would like to attend the traditional authority meetings with us on the 19/20 we would be most happy to arrange that as well.

I'm also happy to have a call with you if that works better to help with the details.

Best,  
Diana

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 5, 2021, at 5:40 AM, [Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca) wrote:

Dear Diana

I just wanted to follow-up on my trip to Namibia to confirm plans for Thursday and Friday – 21/22 October.

I plan to leave Tsumeb early on the morning of Thursday, 21 October, to drive to Rundu. The drive will likely take me 3.5-4hours. I'd therefore like to request that any meetings on Thursday take place anytime from 12-midday onwards? I'd also like to ask whether it may be possible to visit one of the drill sites on Friday (22 Oct) – I'm not sure how far the drive is from Rundu so I will take advice from you and your team? I will arrange accommodation for myself back in Rundu on Friday night.

Thank you  
Kind regards

**JP van der Merwe**

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**From:** Diana McQueen <[diana.mcqueen@ReconAfrica.com](mailto:diana.mcqueen@ReconAfrica.com)>  
**Sent:** August 30, 2021 4:00 PM  
**To:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD  
<[Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Re: \*EXT\*RE: \*EXT\*Proposed visit to Namibia by Canadian Trade Commissioner

Good day Jan  
Sorry for the delay in getting back to you. I have talked to our CEO Scot Evans and he will join you on October 21/22 with some of our Namibian team in Rundu.  
Let's follow up on this as your plans get finalized.  
Please feel free to reach out anytime.  
Best,  
Diana

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 24, 2021, at 7:12 AM,  
[Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca) wrote:

Dear Diana

Just a reminder we have virtually 'met' on the regular calls the Recon team have had with our Trade Office in Johannesburg. I will be flying into Windhoek from Johannesburg and will then most likely be travelling by road to other Canadian mining companies before hopefully driving onto Rundu.

Kind regards

**JP van der Merwe**

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High Commission of Canada, Trade Office | Haut-commissariat du Canada, Bureau commercial  
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**From:** Diana McQueen  
<[diana.mcqueen@ReconAfrica.com](mailto:diana.mcqueen@ReconAfrica.com)>  
**Sent:** August 24, 2021 2:26 PM  
**To:** Van Der Merwe, Jan -JBURG -TD  
<[Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Scot Evans <[scot.evans@ReconAfrica.com](mailto:scot.evans@ReconAfrica.com)>; Claire  
Preece <[claire.preece@ReconAfrica.com](mailto:claire.preece@ReconAfrica.com)>; DiFranco,  
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<[diana.mcqueen@ReconAfrica.com](mailto:diana.mcqueen@ReconAfrica.com)>; Craig Steinke  
<[craig@reconrecon.com](mailto:craig@reconrecon.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: \*EXT\*Proposed visit to Namibia by  
Canadian Trade Commissioner

Thank you Mr. VanDerMerwe and congratulations on  
your new posting.  
We are in the process of discussing dates for our team  
to be in Namibia again so I will get back to you with  
dates this week.  
Thank you so much and we look forward to working  
with you.  
Best,  
Diana McQueen  
SVP ReconAfrica

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 24, 2021, at 5:52 AM,  
[Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.VanDerMerwe@international.gc.ca)  
wrote:

Dear Scot, Diana and Claire

I am looking to plan a trip to Namibia in  
the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of October (18-22), and  
possibly into the 4<sup>th</sup> week (25-29). I  
would very much like the opportunity  
to visit your office in Rundu and  
hopefully one or two of your drilling  
sites. Will any of your Canadian

executive team be in the country during those 2 weeks. If not, that isn't a problem, I can then just meet with your local team there. I have a couple of meetings lined up already with Canadian mining companies on 19 and 20 (Tues and Wednesday) October. I'd therefore like to try and visit your Rundu office and drill sites on 21/22 October.

Please let me know if this would be possible?

Thank you  
Kind regards

**JP van der Merwe**

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