

QUARTERLY REVIEW

JANUARY Leadership

- Advocate Bience Gawanas was appointed in January 2018 as Special Adviser on Africa for the United Nations.
- Standard Bank appointed Anne Juuko as the new Head, Corporate and Investment Banking (CIB).

Crime

- A young Walvis Bay woman was arrested on charges of murder after terminating her pregnancy in the last month. Her fully developed foetus died and she was remanded in custody. The suspect is said to have used illegal street abortion pills.

INTERNATIONAL Politics

- In commemoration of the first Women's March after President Trumps swearing in, the women from Las Vegas marched to mobilise national female voter registration. The march was held to send a message that women are going to lead the victories electorally in 2018. It was called "#PowerTo-ThePolls."

Health/Research

- On 25 January in Chicago: As part of the 2nd annual symposium on sex and sex inclusion in biomedical research, the

women's health research got a national boost with the declaration of a national Women's Health Research Day. In the past women were excluded from clinical trials, and even if they were to take the drugs being developed, it was not being tested on them.

FEBRUARY Leadership

- Liezl Davies has been appointed as Rössing mine's general manager of operations.

Sport

- The National Indoor Hockey Women's team participated in the fifth Women's Indoor Hockey World Cup, which took place in Berlin, Germany from the 7th to the 11th of February. Namibia was placed in Group B, which will qualify to take part in the next hockey Olympics. Namibia is ranked first in Women's Indoor Hockey in Africa.

INTERNATIONAL Awards

- Liberia's former president, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, has been awarded the Mo Ibrahim Prize for Achievement in African Leadership.

Law

- On 1 February Tunisia put into force its new and historic law

on domestic violence. It recognises physical, moral and sexual abuse as well as abuse in the form of financial exploitation. The law also slaps a fine on employers who pay women less than their male counterparts.

Business/ Law

- In the Middle East, Saudi Arabian women can now open their own businesses without the consent of a husband or male relative. The government passed a new commerce law that replaces the former guardianship system that required women to present proof of permission from a male "guardian" to do any government paperwork.

Education

- On 28 February, India passed its anti-trafficking bill. Trafficking victims, who are mostly women, will receive free vocational training to help them readjust into society.

MARCH Farewell

- 13 March marked the death of a prominent Namibian parliamentarian, Nora Schimming-Chase. She was a liberation-struggle veteran, campaigner for women's rights and the founding member of the Congress of Democrats (CoD).

Social

- In Namibia, 14 March marked a new entry for Namibian women in the transport industry. LEFA, a new transport system, similar to Uber, signed up its first female drivers. This move includes women in a mainly male-dominated industry. They are Maxie Smith and Lorraine Stofberg.

Sport

- Namibian road cyclist Vera Adrian finished second at the 40th Cape Town Cycle Tour that ended on 11 March. She won silver for Namibia, placing her in the Common Wealth Games starting in April.

INTERNATIONAL Egypt

- Laila Amer, a belly dancer in Egypt, was imprisoned on charges of inciting debauchery and immorality. This was because of a belly dancing music video she had made. She was sentenced to two years in prison.

Politics

- On 19 March Paula Mae Weekes was sworn in as the first female president of Trinidad and Tobago. She was the only presidential candidate nominated by the government.

