



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

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GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF NAMIBIA

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PRESS RELEASE

REPORT ON THE 02/02/2016 EARTHQUAKE RECORDED IN NAMIBIA

INTRODUCTION

On Tuesday the **2nd of February 2016 19:15:00 (GMT)**, an earthquake was recorded in Namibia with a magnitude of **3.7 M_c** approximately **70 km south-west of Uis**. Four local seismic stations from the Namibian seismological network recorded the event and preliminary analyses were performed on this data set. Seismic phases were picked from these stations for analyses and the event is located at latitude (**Y**): **-22.677S**, longitude (**X**): **14.114 E**, and at a depth of 10 km with Coda magnitude M_c of 3.7, with a 0.009 degree error in latitude and longitude (approx. +/- 10 km radius).

DATA

At present, four phase readings were picked by the Geological Survey for WIN (Windhoek), ARMS (Ariamsvlei), GOB (Gobabis) and AUSN (Aus) and is shown indicating the time that it occurred at around **21:15 local time** and it lasted for about **6 seconds**.

GNS

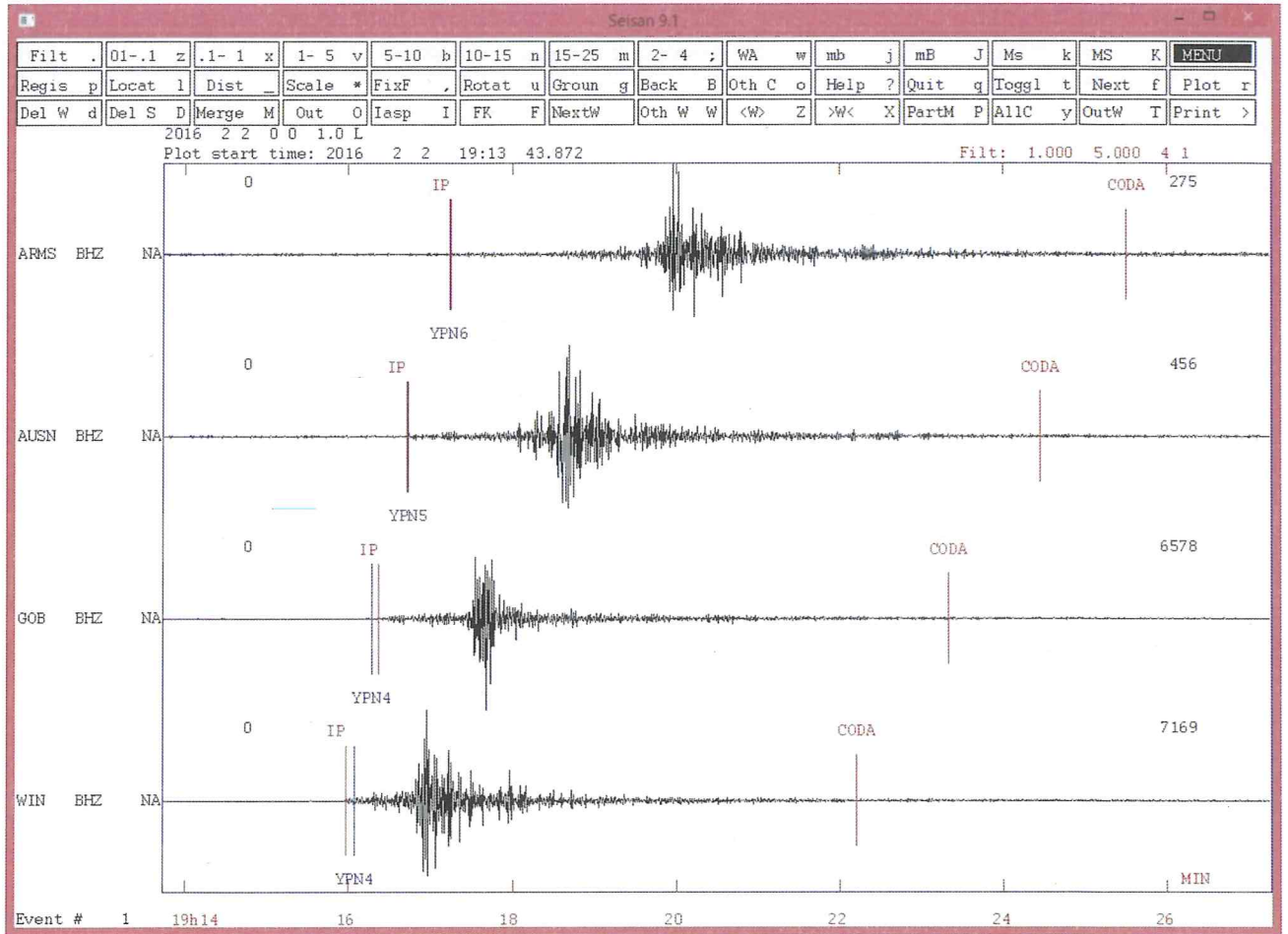


Figure 1: Waveform traces of the earthquake recorded on 2 February 2016 at 21:15 local time.

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LOCATION AND FOCAL MECHANISM

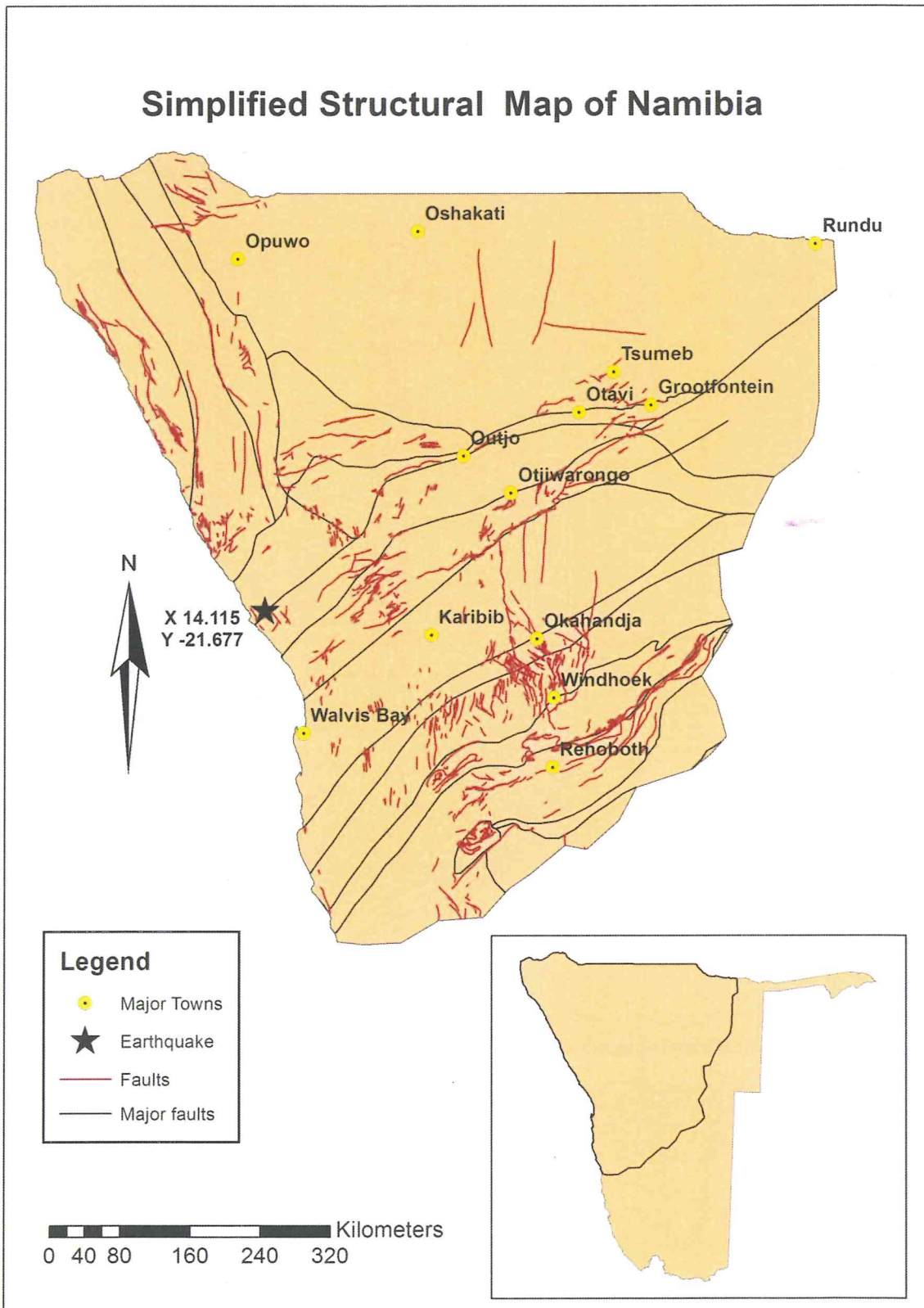


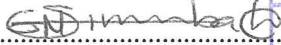
FIGURE 2: Location of epicentre of the earthquake (**black star**), which is 70 km SW of Uis

GNS

To fully characterise the mechanism that caused the earthquake more data and analyses will be conducted in the coming days by the GSN as more waveforms that recorded the event are analysed in detail. However, from the initial calculations, the current epicentre of the event is located at the junction where the Kaoko Belt on the North West coast of Namibia connects with the Damara belt running across central Namibia. The event is located in an area that contains regional faults. In Figure 2, the location of the event is shown on a simplified structural map of Namibia. It is common that these weaker areas in the crust are channels for energy to travel along and therefore the quake could be felt in the north-western regions of Namibia. As more data is processed, updates to this event will be communicated accordingly.

EVENT:

The earthquake was located at -22.677 °S and 14.114 °E, depth at 15 km and the coda magnitude M_c is **3.7**.


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Gloria Simubali
DIRECTOR: Geological Survey of Namibia

