



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

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GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF NAMIBIA

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PRESS RELEASE

REPORT ON THE 03/02/2016 EARTHQUAKE RECORDED IN NAMIBIA

INTRODUCTION

On Wednesday the **3rd of February 2016 11:04:15 (GMT)**, another earthquake was recorded in Namibia with a magnitude of **3.9 M_c just off the coast**. Three 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**): **-22.228S**, longitude (**X**): **14.169 E**, and at a depth of 15 km with Coda magnitude M_c of 3.9, with a 0.009 degree error in latitude and longitude (approx. +/- 10 km radius).

DATA

At present, three phase readings for initial calculations were picked by the Geological Survey for WIN (Windhoek), GOB (Gobabis) and AUSN (Aus) and is shown indicating the time that it occurred at around **13:05 local time** and it lasted for about **10 seconds**.

GNS

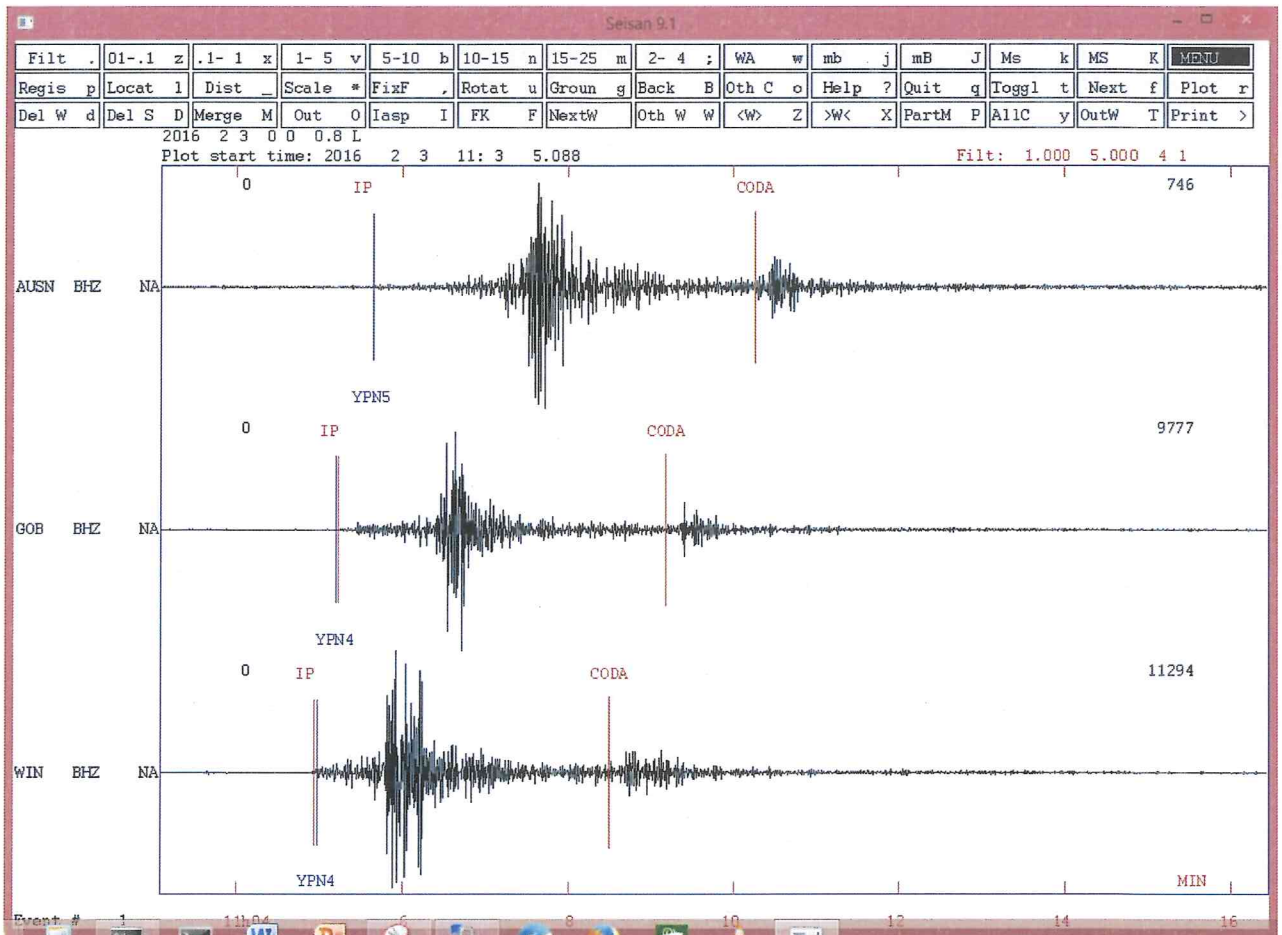


Figure 1: Waveform traces of the earthquake recorded on 3rd of February 2016 at 13:15 local time.

GNS

LOCATION AND FOCAL MECHANISM

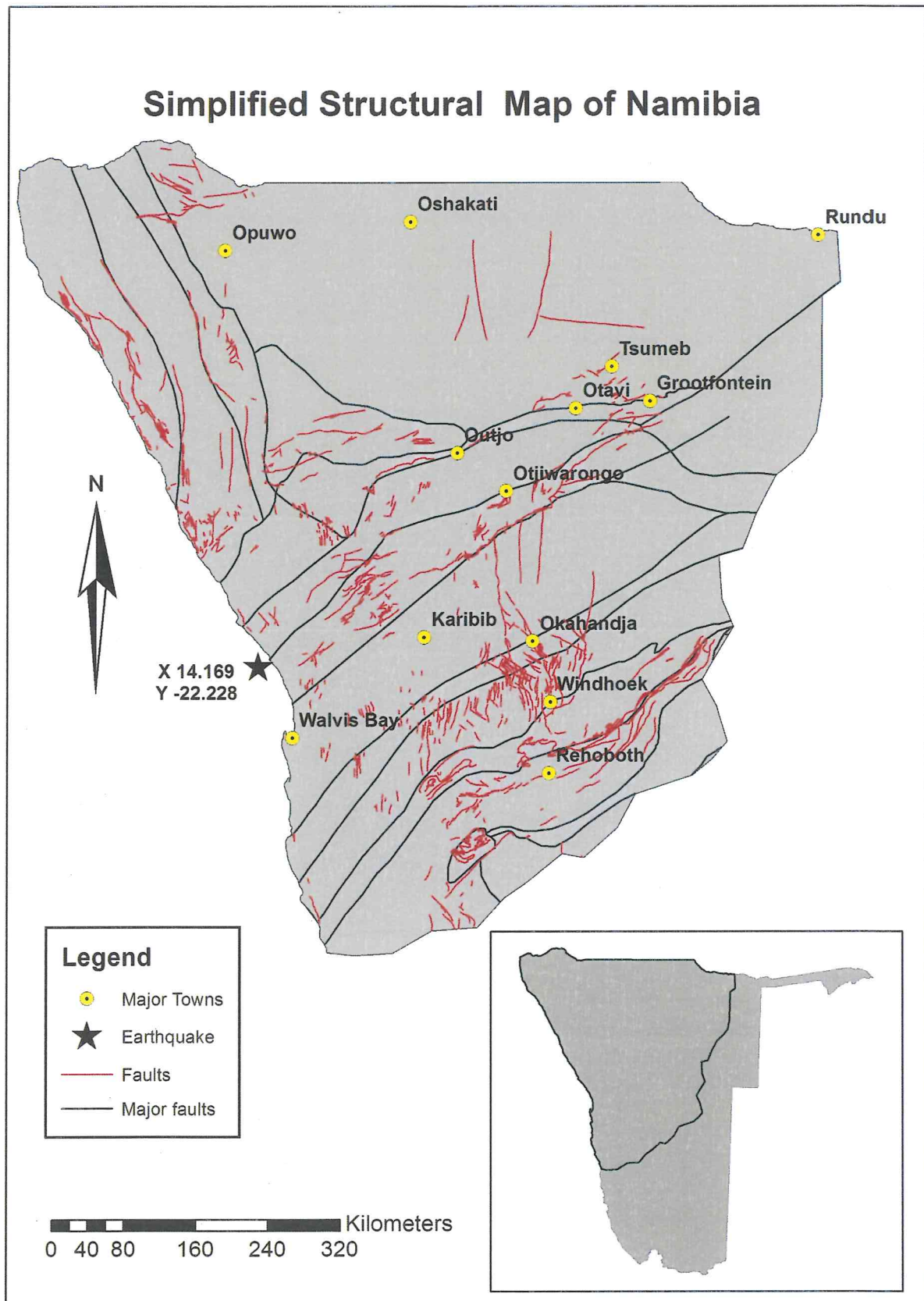


FIGURE 2: Location of epicentre of the earthquake (**black star**), just off the coast of Namibia

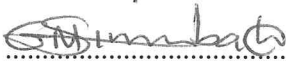
GNS

The initial calculations show that the current epicentre of the event is also located at the junction where the Kaoko Belt on the North West coast of Namibia connects with the Damara belt running across central Namibia. This event is located about 30km south west from the 02 February 2016 event. The location of the event is shown on a simplified structural map of Namibia. It is possible that the two events of the 2nd and the 3rd of February are related and as more data is processed during the next few weeks a clearer understanding of these two events will transpire. The results of further calculations and interpretations will be communicated accordingly.

Namibia is relatively stable and tremors where people feel the vibration and possible shaking of the ground occur seldom. However, the fact that we feel these tremors remind us that the crust of the earth is dynamic and evolves continuously. Tremors and earthquakes are therefore very natural but unpredictable. In the case of Namibia the magnitudes are relatively low.

EVENT SUMMARY:

The earthquake was located at -22.228 °S and 14.169 °E, depth at 15 km and the coda magnitude M_c is **3.9**.



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