



**New Year's Message
By the
Chairperson of ERONGO REGIONAL COUNCIL: Honourable
Hafeni L. Ndemula
ON 1st FEBRUARY 2019**

Honourable Councillors
Madam Chief Regional Officer
All ERC Management Cadre
ERC staff members

Let's take a minute of silence in honour of late Chief Seth Madawa Kooitjie, the traditional leader of the Topnaar community. It is indeed unfortunate that we have to resume New Year activities with sore hearts.

I herewith officially announce the passing on of Chief Seth Madawa Kooitjie, the stalwart of the Erongo Region and the traditional leader of Topnaar community. Late Chief Kooitjie, passed on Thursday, 24 January 2019 in Walvis Bay.

We salute you Chief Kooitjie. May His Soul Rest in Peace.

I would like to welcome you all back and trust you had a well-deserved break. I hope you celebrated the start of 2019 in good spirits with your family and friends. Now that we are a good 31days into the new year, it's good to look ahead and think about what this year may bring us.

During 2018, the ERC had travelled an exhilarating journey, we thank you all for being part of the success story. We have indeed been through many developments, in sometimes less than favourable circumstances. But we have made good progress, creating a roadmap to be a leading regional council in the country. I am proud that we have with minimal external resources crafted and launched our own Strategic Plan and in same vein committed ourselves to better service delivery guided by the

Customer Service Charter. We have indeed a team of hard-working dedicated workforce.

My task today is to welcome you back to Erongo Regional Council, the centre of excellence, and would like to thank you for your significant support and dedication during challenging times. The year of 2019 had been declared as the year of accountability. This morning in the 1st Ordinary Regional Council meeting, I elaborated on what is expected of us. Our Management have also this morning declared to uphold to the values, mission and vision of the Erongo Regional Council by signing a bounding declaration. I therefore would urge all of us to adhere to what we have set ourselves. Managers must take bold decisions and hold their subordinates to account for their actions.

The year 2019 will bring its own challenges but I am sure by working together, keeping focused on our priorities and putting our citizens first, we can realize our ambitions. I am convinced that I can count on you at all times.

Let us continue to uphold the Excellent image of Erongo Regional Council as a team. I will once again repeat what I have said last year ***“We should serve our people with due diligence and respect. All are equal and deserves to be treated as such. Effective and efficient service delivery is a MUST and should not be compromised at any given time”***.

The year of Accountability means that irrespective of the positions we hold at Erongo Regional Council, we must all account for our actions and shall be held accountable. Our mandate is to develop this region. Therefore, our actions must be progressive at all times.

Thank you very much and prosperous 2019. May God Almighty bless us all.