



**Official announcement statement
By the
Chairperson of ERONGO REGIONAL COUNCIL: Honourable
Hafeni L. Ndemula
ON 1ST FEBRUARY 2019**

**OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT, STATEMENT BY
HONOURABLE H. L. NDEMULA, CHAIRPERSON OF THE
ERONGO REGIONAL COUNCIL AT THE 1ST ORDINARY
REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING OF 2019, HELD ON THE 1ST
FEBRUARY 2019 AT THE ERONGO REGIONAL COUNCIL
CHAMBERS AT 10H00.**

Honourable Governor
Honourable Councillors
Madam Chief Regional Officer
All ERC Management Cadre
Distinguish guest
Members of the media
Members of the public
Ladies and gentlemen

Good morning

Before we commence, I would like us all to stand for a moment in silence to commemorate Chief Seth Madawa Kooitjie, who passed away on Thursday, 24 January 2019 in Walvis Bay.

It is unfortunate that we have to open our 1st Ordinary Regional Council meeting of 2019 with sore hearts and souls. We have lost a stalwart of the region, we are robbed of one of the most eminent representatives of the generation of traditional leaders and a committed leader. Late Chief Kooitjie, passed on Thursday, 24 January 2019 in Walvis Bay. Late Chief Kooitjie was actively involved in the building of our nation and in the efforts to achieve a better life for all.

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

I am very honoured to welcome you all to the 1st Ordinary Regional Council meeting of 2019, the year declared as the year of accountability. To lead us into the year of accountability, I find it appropriate to share with you a scripture from the first book of guidance from Our Almighty,

Genesis 1:26 “Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground”

I find this scripture quite applicable to our set-up and further subscribed to the advice of Myle Munroe, who analysed this scripture reading as “God created humanity to carry out His purpose on earth. When God created man in His image, He gave him free will. Thus man has the ability to plan and make decisions, and to take action to fulfil those plans, just as God did in creating the world”. Munroe further advises us that Man is meant to carry out God’s purposes using his own will and initiative. He is to reflect the God who formulates plans and carries them through creative acts. How is humanity to fulfil this vocation”.

Man was created not only to have a relationship with God but also to share God’s authority. In Psalm 115:16 “The highest heavens belong to the Lord, but the earth he has given to man”. The amount of the creation of mankind shows that God never intended to rule earth by Himself. Why? It is because “God is love” (1 John 4:8,16), and He wants others to share in what He had.

Honourable Councillors
Madam Chief Regional Officer
Management and Staff of ERC

What I have shared with you is a full declaration of our purpose on this earth and the same can be linked to our purpose to Erongo Regional Council. With this in mind, I am certain that when we enter our

workstations, we deliberate on our purpose of life, and connect our purpose to the overall purpose of this esteemed institution.

Honourable Councillors
Madam Chief Regional Officer
Management and Staff of ERC

We are here to serve the Erongo Region, not only the region but the entire Namibian nation. What we do and say will ultimately create conducive environment for our people. Our people are looking up to us. They expect us to lead by example.

The question is how do we lead by example? I concur with His Excellency, Dr Hage Geingob, the President of the Republic of Namibia, when he declared 2019 as the year of accountability.

Honourable Councillors
Ladies and gentlemen

We are indeed accountable to our actions. Accountable to our people. Accountable to the expression and perception created. Yes, we are at liberty to take calculated risks at times, as long as it is for the good course of economic and sustainable development. We are human beings, however, we are on this earth to execute the God's will, and that is to uplift our communities' livelihood.

Having said that, our recently and to be specific during December 2018 launched Strategic Plan and Customer Service Charter should not only be collective items on our tables, but rather be **THE** living document that should guide us daily. I would therefore, urge all of us to live by the

commitments we made. We should not only be seen as doing things but the execution of our tasks should be in line with how we deliver these services. Respect is a decisive element of service delivery. It is only when we respect ourselves in the workplace and appreciate each and everyone's contribution within the Erongo Regional Council that we would be able to serve our people with passion and commitment.

I would therefore, urge our Management to lead the way by pledging today their commitment to our high level statements by signing these declarations. This is the bounding commitment.

During 2018, we have collectively achieved heights, I would therefore want to express my profound gratitude to ERC staff members for their unconditional commitment and contributions in serving the nation with distinction. Your dedication, loyalty and unwavering commitment is commendable. You have served the nation to your best ability even in the odd situations, and 2019 should not be treated differently in our quest to deliver professional service to our community.

As this is the first Council Meeting for 2019, I will not indulge **more** in detail on the programmes and activities, but just to remind us once again on our commitment we made last year. I will once again repeat what I have said last year *“We should serve our people with due diligent and respect. We are all equal and deserves to be treated as such. Effective and efficient service delivery is a MUST and should not be compromised at no any given time”*.

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

Thank you