



**Official announcement statement
By the
Chairperson of ERONGO REGIONAL COUNCIL: Honourable
Hafeni L. Ndemula
ON 7th JUNE 2019**

**OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT, STATEMENT BY
HONOURABLE H. L. NDEMULA, CHAIRPERSON OF THE
ERONGO REGIONAL COUNCIL AT THE 5TH ORDINARY
REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING OF 2019, HELD ON THE 7th
JUNE 2019 AT THE ERONGO REGIONAL COUNCIL
CHAMBERS AT 08H00.**

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

Good morning

It is with sore hearts that we once again, have to commence our Council duties today. I would therefore like us to observe a minute of silence in homage of Late Dr Nickey Iiyambo, a hero of our liberation struggle; a torchbearer of unity, liberty and justice. It is dare that we have laid to rest our heroes a months' apart since the beginning of 2019. But we find comfort and solace in God, Our Almighty, who accorded us with such visionary leaders and that we are privileged to had opportunities to tap on their knowledge and wisdom. May Late Dr Nickey Iiyambo's soul rest in peace.

The Erongo Regional Council being the committed public entity to plan and develop the region, continues to live up to its promise, and I should applaud all for striving to serve the nation although experiencing challenges at times.

Honourable Councillors
Madam Chief Regional Officer

Although changing our behaviour is ultimately up to each of us as individuals, the Council has realised in order to keep motivated and engaged employees it needs to reinforce a supportive work environment. I am therefore delighted to note that wellness programme is on top of our priorities. It is said that healthy workforce and a productive workforce. The “Big Walk” on 9 May 2019, was indeed an introduction of well organised and teambuilding exercise. I trust that this will not be once off activity but a continues engagement.

Honourable Councillors
Madam Chief Regional Officer

While we are talking about healthy minds, we were honoured with a site visit by Dr Haufiku – the National Coordinator for the Hepatitis E outbreak campaign, accompanied by the German biotechnological company called Ecabiotect which specialises in biological disinfection products. The aim of the visit was to conduct a situational analysis of the outbreak affected areas in order to establish the needs of affected communities pertaining to hygiene and sanitation and how Ecabiotect would assist. The Team visited the DRC informal settlement and acquit themselves with the situation.

We are once again urged to advocate the importance of hygiene and sanitation and encourage our respective communities on the usage of sanitizers at all times. Maybe we should think of having sanitizers strategically well placed in all offices. This will demonstrate our commitment to combat this outbreak.

Honourable Councillors
Madam Chief Regional Officer

The Erongo Region is one of the most draught affected Region in the country. Honourable Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of International Affairs and Cooperation visited the region, to acquit herself on the situation. Stakeholder consultation meeting took place on 10 May 2019, where the Deputy PM was briefed on the status more especially on the quest for mutual cooperation and coordination to lessen the burden on the communal farmers.

On the same day, the Honourable Zephania Kameeta, Minister of Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare had stakeholder consultation on the Food Bank roll out in the Region. At the consultation, Swakopmund and Karibib were identified as the Food Bank centres of the Region. As the region advocating the notion of Plan Together, Develop Together I believe we will continue to render full support and cooperation needed.

Honourable Councillors
Madam Chief Regional Officer
Ladies and Gentlemen

Budget consultation with the MURD was conducted and although ERC will operate with less than previous years', I am confident that we will carry out our tasks and activities with the same passion and dedication as the years before. I am however delighted that the capital projects budget will not be too much affected as the operational budget. Let's be motivated to work with less but demonstrate that the outputs under circumstance will not impede our vision of being the region of excellence.

Honourable Councillors
Madam Chief Regional Officer

Ladies and Gentlemen

The Ministry of Land Reform had finalised the allocation of Farming Units, and as advised on 15 February 2019 and 15 March 2019. In total four (4) units were allocated in Erongo Region to the beneficiaries. Two (2) Units were allocated to Erongo Region inhabitants, whilst the other two (2) units were allocated to beneficiaries from other regions. All successful candidates will be invited to attend a compulsory training to be conducted in due course. The beneficiaries are further urged to occupy their allocated farming units within 30 days after receipt of their original allotment letters. The Ministry will re-advertised unoccupied farming units after 30 days of receiving allotment letters.

Honourable Councillors
Madam Chief Regional Officer
Ladies and Gentlemen

I would like to share with this August House that the Topnaar Community guided by the Customary law signed by the Late Chief Kootjie on 24 July 2012, makes provision for the position of the Deputy Captain (Chief) to automatically act as Chief in absence of the Chief due to death or resignation, as the result Topnaar Traditional Authority have written a letter to MURD for Acting position of Late Chief Seth Kootjie. The Council will be kept abreast on the developments of this request.

The Erongo Regional Council in support of regional development, once again participated in the Karibib Travel and Tourism fair as from 28 May to 1 June 2019. Accompanied by Madam Doëses, the Chief Regional officer, I attend the official opening on the fair. The Official opening was attended by Honourable Engelbrecht Nawatiseb – Deputy Minister of MICT and in his capacity as the Patron on the Fair. He expressed his sentiment that if the region desires to yield best return on investment on the trade fairs it need to have a regional integrated platform to showcase and exhibit its goods and services. I trust that this

will be a point of discussion on the Erongo Regional Sub-National Government Forum.

Lastly, I can't emphasize enough on teamwork. We are a team in Erongo Regional Council and we can only maintain our status if we work together and motivate each other. Let's continue to pull in one direction, and to make sure that no-one is left out. Our communication moto should be from bottom-up and from top-bottom, we should also bear in mind to respect each other and opinions, no one is above the law. Let's go and serve the Erongo Region and the nation at large. I wish you all the best for the new month and May the God Almighty bless us all.

Thank you very much for listening.