



Official announcement statement
By the
Chairperson of ERONGO REGIONAL COUNCIL: Honourable
Hafeni L. Ndemula
ON 3rd August 2018

**OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT, STATEMENT BY
HONOURABLE H. L. NDEMULA, CHAIRPERSON OF THE
ERONGO REGIONAL COUNCIL AT THE ORDINARY
REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING, HELD ON THE 3rd AUGUST
2018 AT THE ERONGO REGIONAL COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT
10H00.**

Honourable Councillors
Madam Chief Regional Officer
All ERC Management Cadre and Staff
Distinguished Guests
Members of the Media
Members of the Public
Ladies and Gentlemen

I can't be more grateful to once again lead this August House. Thank you all for honouring to be here today. I would like to welcome you all.

This meeting as dictated by the the Regional Council Act, 1992 (Act 22 of 1992), is the platform where Regional Councils share information on the activities to the public, I thus welcome the public and the media to this rather important platform.

Before, we deliberate on the issues of the day, would we please observe a minute of silence in honour of Son of the Erongo's soil, late Dr Theo Ben Gurirab, who passed away on 14 July 2018 and laid to rest on 21 July 2018. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

The month of July 2018, was yet again full of activities on the calendar of the Erongo Regional Council, both in terms of operational and developmental issues. I should once again applaud the leadership of this great Mighty region for their continuous commitment to the development of this region. I should also applaud the Management and Staff of the Erongo Regional Council in partnership with local authorities of yet again being the fore-runner of innovations. Well done Erongo Region.

However, there is a urgent need to uphold to our mandate of development in the region, and one way of flourishing in the development is to create healthy environment for all. I thus urge the Local Authorities in the region to initiate avenues for dialogue with their respective communities in order to avoid possible mistrust and subsequent unrest in the region. Having said that, I was invited to mediate at the community demonstration in Karibib during the period under review, whereby the community express dissatisfaction on services by the local authority in question. Erongo Regional Council is carrying out its core-sight mandate and will work closely with all stakeholders under the auspices of Ministry of Urban and Rural Development to find an amicable solution to this unfortunate impasse.

Ladies and gentlemen

We have witnessed the commencing of the preparations of the anticipated Arandis Emergency Response and Traffic Management Centre taking silhouette. In order to assist the Arandis Town Council and its strategic partners in realising the initiative, ERC at its Ordinary Regional Council meeting dated 1st June 2017, pledged to support the course of the initiative. The ERC therefore initiated a fundraising gala dinner, not only to raise funds but also to create awareness of the initiative. I am pleased to announce that an amount of N\$753 611.00 was raised. Two entities have also pledged in-kind in terms of providing First Aid training to 20 NAMPOL Officers and providing of Drivers' Learners books at the value of N\$5 000.00. I would therefore express my gratitude to both the political leadership and the corporate world on their support and would further encourage them to continue supporting this noble course.

The Erongo Regional Council observes the importance of soliciting of input from community and stakeholders as a very crucial element of development. As such a Regional Consultative workshop was conducted to source input and comments in preparation for the 2nd National Land Conference. The main purpose of this consultation was to represent the Erongo Region as one common denomination of a united front.

During the month under review, the first ever official visit by a Jamaican Head of State to Namibia was witnessed and Erongo Region was blessed with a day visit by the high profile delegation. I, accompanied by Honourable Nangolo, the Councillor of Walvis Bay Rural Constituency and Madam Doëses, the Chief Regional Officer received the Honourable Prime Minister Andrew Holness at the Walvis Bay Airport. The Honourable Prime Minister Andrew Holness of Jamaica, expressed his satisfaction at the development of the Namibia Ports Authority (NAMPORT), and his appreciation of the hospitality he enjoyed in the Erongo Region. There are some consideration on future bilateral discussions and interventions between Jamaica and the Erongo Region more especially in the fields of tourism and logistics. In light of this, there is an urgent need for us to re-assess on creating innovative avenues for future investment attraction, more especially in community tourism as the most lucrative venture.

I attended the Association of Regional Councillors meeting in Ruacana on 25th July 2018, and the documented deliberations will be shared with all in this August house soon.

Accompanied by Honourable !Haoseb and Ms Doëses, the Chief Regional Officer, I attended the 3d Annual SADC industrialization week

in preparation of the 28th SADC Summit to be held in mid-August 2018, in Windhoek. The workshop indented on strengthening of relationships between industry and government to assist in developing the appropriate interventions and plans that will support the realisation of the SADC Regional Integration and Trade and fast-track industrialisation strategy which will be discussed at the anticipated SADC Summit scheduled from 17-18 August 2018 in Namibia.

The Africa Public Service Day is observed annually and spearheaded by the Office of the Prime Minister. However, the 2018 Africa Public Service Day celebrations initially scheduled for Katima Mulilo in the Zambezi Region are now decentralised to individual regions. As such the Erongo Regional Council is in the process of organizing the celebrations for Erongo Region by organizing presentations on the theme of 2018: ***“Combating Corruption in the Public Service Institutions through stakeholder partnership and promotion of ethical leadership to realize the objectives of Agenda 2063 and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)”***. The event was scheduled for Monday, 6 August 2018 but has been postponed to the later date, still to be communicated.

Ladies and gentlemen, Honourable Councillors

Records Management is a crucial element in the operations of any institution, and as the regional sub-government, we have to adhere to the National Archives Act of 1992. As such, this year we are embarking on the sensitization of the importance of safe keeping of our documents. I therefore call upon all of us to give full support to the colleagues when required to subscript to the procedural guidance given on disposal and retention of government documents.

I have taken note of the procedural way of conducting the tabling of motions in this August house. I therefore would alert you all Honourable Members, that the questions posted in the last Ordinary Regional Council meeting had been provided and documented in 281.18.08 Council meeting minutes. However, as directed by the Regional Council Act, 1992 (Act No:2, of 1992), the minutes of the Ordinary Regional Council meetings will be revamped as from next Council meeting. We are therefore cautioned to familiarise ourselves with the procedures.

Ladies and gentlemen, Honourable Councillors

The Hepatitis E is still a concern in Swakopmund but there is no cause of alarm. Various interventions are underway, and I am pleased to announce that all stakeholders and health workers are hard at work especially in the areas where suspected cases were reported in DRC residential area of Swakopmund. The Erongo Regional Council pledged to avail transport and to provide incentives of two (2) weeks to the volunteers under the Erongo Regional Emergency Fund. Therefore, there is no cause of panic. However, we are urged to continuously sensitize our communities at our respective Constituencies about the most effective approach of prevention against Hepatitis E infection. Adherence to the strict hygiene practices at all times cannot be over emphasised.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Honourable Councillors

Although wishing a colleague well deserve retirement, it is always hard to say goodbye to a colleague and a leader who was so committed and

passionate about his profession. I am therefore announcing the retirement of Mr John /Awaseb, the Director of Education, Arts and Culture in the Erongo Region from the Public Service. His last day was on 31 July 2018, and I am informed that he received a joyful yet emotional sent off.

The retirement of top management, Regional Director and the Deputy Director triggered administrative challenges in the Directorate of Education, Arts and Culture. Considering these vital challenges in the development of the region, the leadership of Erongo Regional Council had consultations with the Permanent Secretary, Ms Sanet Steenkamp, and Ms Natalia Guriras, the Chief Education Officer for Professional Development Section has been appointed as acting Deputy Director for Programmes and Quality Assurance (PQA).

The Erongo Regional Council also realised that the delegated functions are not fully integrated into the Council, thus operating in solitude. Therefore, there is a challenge to address the successful transition of the delegated functions to avoid duplication of tasks in the Region. We need to strengthen relationships within the Council.

I have to applaud Honourable Councillors for reaching out to your respective communities in your Constituencies. I have noted with much appreciation of your donations of much needed necessities during this winter period. Keep up the good work, and let us be more caring and create more avenues for sustainable development in our region.

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