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MEDIA RELEASE

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Highlights from the Municipal Council of Windhoek Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 31 May 2023

1. Appointment of the substantive Chief Executive Officer of the City of Windhoek

The Windhoek Mayor, Cllr Joseph Uapingene officially announced the appointment of Moses Matyayi as the new substantive Chief Executive Officer of the City of Windhoek, and he is expected to assume duty effective 1 August 2023. The appointment of a substantive CEO serves as a critical first step towards ensuring the stability of the organization and that Council objectives and mandates are effectively executed. The Council wish for a smooth transition and will ensure that all checks, balances, and onboarding efforts occur, through transparent and ethical means, for the good of the organization and residents. The Council therefore welcomes the new CEO with integrity, honesty, and a call to serve and leverage the Municipal Council of Windhoek, as a global contender.

2. Motion - Councillors as development ambassadors and champions

Cllr Amupanda put forward a motion that individual councillors be allowed to conceptualize, mobilize, initiate and submit developmental initiatives/projects to the council, which are aimed to assist the city in meeting developmental plans. The motion states that elected members of Council took an oath of office, with a code of conduct having been developed and passed individually. Code 3(1)(a) places an individual obligation to members of the council to ***"represent the community of a local authority area as a whole"***. Thus, individual members of the council have a role and obligation, particularly towards the development of the local authority area. The motion further submits that the developmental projects to be initiated by councillors must have regard to the Local Authority Act, Code of Conduct. According to the motion, the initiation of the developmental projects should be aligned to the strategic and annual plans of the council, may not cause the council any financial implications, and are to be submitted to the council for approval. Moreover, the motion requests that the office of the Chief Executive Officer and relevant heads of departments provide appropriate support to the council in the course of conceptualizing and initiating these development initiatives. The motion was passed without objection and referred to the management committee.

The Municipal Council of Windhoek has resolved to approve the following item amongst others:

3. Update on the water supply to the municipal council of Windhoek and activation of the emergency borehole scheme.

The water supply to the Municipal Council of Windhoek is affected through the three-dam system of the Von Bach, Swakopoort and Omatako dams. These Dams are all rainfed, and thus, if there is no rain, there will be no inflow of water into these dams. Whilst, the Municipal Council of Windhoek is highly reliant on bulk supply from NamWater, it has a limited supply of resources to augment this supply during normal supply and seasonal drought occurrences.

Although the Swakopoort dam's level is still 72.3%, it is important to note that its water quality is poor, besides the fact that the transfer system which links it to Von Bach dam is very unreliable with regular interruptions. The Omatako dam is virtually empty and the Von Bach dam is currently only at 26.8% capacity. Taking the high evaporation rate into account, the available water in the three combined dams is not sufficient to supply Windhoek for a period of two years if no inflow materializes, and the Windhoek emergency borehole scheme is not activated.

With respect to the current situation, the most relevant category to be declared going forward is category C (water scarcity), which dictates that the municipal council of Windhoek should enforce water restrictions to be able to reduce water demand by 10%. The impact of this water demand management category on residents is that:

- Gardens may only be watered two times a week;
- Vehicle may only be washed using buckets no (handheld hose);
- Swimming pools should be covered with pool covers at all times;
- No water features such as a fountain allowed;
- Water reuse where possible is encouraged;
- Four block water tariffs move to a lower volume consumed per month before penalty tariffs apply- to encourage water saving;
- Residents are expected to do daily water meter readings to identify water leakages; and
- No water leakage rebate will be allowed.

4. Establishment of a trilateral cooperation relationship between the cities of Windhoek, Durban (South Africa) and the free Hanseatic City of Bremen (Germany)

Council has resolved to approve the cooperation relationship between the cities of Windhoek, Durban (South Africa) and the free Hanseatic City of Bremen (Germany). The cities of Windhoek and Bremen have been cooperating since 2000, building on a long historic relationship that includes support for Namibia's independence by the people of Bremen. Likewise, within the global south, the cities of Windhoek and Durban have been exchanging on projects of mutual interest, primarily on environmental management, sanitation and climate change. It is important to note that both the cities of Windhoek and Durban are respective sister cities to the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen. Hence, to their symbiotic relationship and synergy,

the three cities have been cooperating in an informal framework, and have shared stages on various international platforms.

On the occasion of the Municipal Partnership Conference for German Cities and their global south counterparts held in Dresden, Germany, which was followed by a co-ordination workshop held in Bremen in October 2022, the cities of **Windhoek, Durban and Bremen** echoed the realization and overall need to formalize their rather mutually beneficial relationship. This partnership will be geared at exploring future common topics and projects under the overarching framework of implementing the sustainable development goals - a joint commitment for all three cities. The parties have expressed a desire to cooperate in the following areas:

- Climate change and adaptation
- Sustainable Urban and economic development
- Environmental Protection and environmental health
- Social Cohesion and community development
- Smart cities and digitization; and
- Knowledge exchange

5. Naming and Renaming of streets

Council has resolved to approve street names as follows:

- Road 4 in Rocky Crest Extension 4 is to be named in honour of the late **Chief Kamaituara Kukuri** and be known as **Kamaituara Kukuri Street**
- Road 6 in Rocky Crest Extension 4 is to be named in honour of **Judge Bryan O'Linn** and be known as **Bryan O'Linn Street**
- **Sin Street** in Dolam, Katutura to be renamed in honour of the late **Ulrich Paulino**
- Road 12 in Rocky Crest Extension 4 is to be named in honour of the late **Aaron Shihepo**
- An arterial or collector street in one of the extensions of the approved township developments of **Farm Ongos no.38** to be named in honour of Gaeb Justus /Urehe //Garoeb, and be known as **Justus //Garoëb Street**
- An arterial or collector street in one of the extensions of the approved township developments of Farm Ongos no.38 to be named in honour of the late **Mvula Ya Nangolo**
- A street without a name in Oshetu Community (formerly known as Katutura Single Quarters) to be named **Kapana Street**
- Road 3 in Goreangab extension 5 (Windhoek Waterfront Township Development) is to be named in honour of the late **Emir Abdelkader**
- Road 8 in Rocky Crest Extension 4 is to be named in honour of the late national historical figure and liberation stalwart **Jacob Marengo**
- Road 11 in Goreangab Extension 5 (Windhoek Waterfront Township Development) is to be named in honour of the late **John Nankudhu**
- One of the formal streets in any of the upcoming township development to be named after the late **Elombe Brath**

- Section of Otjomuise Road (+_ 6km in length) that extends from Sam Nujoma Drive to be reserved and renamed in honour of the late **Gaob Medusalag Xamseb**
- The street that has been approved to be known as Dr Theo Ben Gurirab Street in Elisenheim Lifestyle Village is to be named in honour of **Gaob !Garikorob**
- Road 14 in Rocky Crest Extension 4 is to be named in honour of **Festus Major Kamburona**
- A street in one of the extensions of the approved township developments of Farm Ongos no.38 is to be named in honour of honourable **Ngarikutuke Tjiriange**
- The newly arterial road stretching from Sam Nujoma Drive leading to the upcoming township of the Ongos Valley is to be named in honour of the late **Captain Jonker Afrikaner**
- Road 13 in Rocky Crest Extension 4 is to be named in honour of the late **Karl Haukaa Kazondunge**
- The following roads in **Rocky Crest extension 4** are to be named as follow:
 - o Road 2 Simon Hiskia Street
 - o Road 3 Josophat Gawa !Nab Street
 - o Road 6 Frans Kambangula Street

Please take note that the above are only highlights of the council meeting. More details about all the items discussed are available on our website through this link:

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ISSUED BY:
City of Windhoek
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Corporate Communications, Marketing, and Public Participation

For more information about this statement, please contact our Corporate Communication Section at Tel.: 061 290 3797 /2044, or email: cowcommunication@windhoekcc.org.na