

Aloe



City of Windhoek

City of many faces

Issue 3 • Nov - Dec 2012



Chief Executive Officer
Nillo Taapopi

CEO's Corner

development of the City, the Minister of Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development extended the City's Municipal Boundaries through Government Gazette Notice No 4801 as promulgated in Government Gazette No 184 dated 30 September 2011.

The promulgation results that all land within the extended boundary area is now under the jurisdiction of the City of Windhoek and subject to the City of Windhoek municipal by laws.

The City's leadership is mindful that some important issues need clarification.

These include but is not limited to the following:

- How existing land use rights will be affected;
- The provision of municipal operational services in the extended boundary area;
- The calculation and payment of municipal rates and taxes versus the existing payment of land tax at the Ministry of Lands and Resettlement;
- The provision and maintenance of infrastructure in the extended boundary area, etc.

The City has therefore commissioned an investigation to assess the impact of the extension of the boundaries said the Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Nillo Taapopi, at a public meeting on the 25 October 2012 in the City's Council Chambers.

He further highlighted, that this analysis will for now focus on identifying the functions and operational as well as infrastructural services that the City will be able to provide in these areas and the identification of those functions and services where agreements may be required with

Continue on Page 2

IN THIS ISSUE

NEW CITY BOUNDARIES A POTENTIAL LAND BENEFIT TO CITY GROWTH

A RECAP ON LAND DELIVERY

WINDHOEK JAZZ FESTIVAL RAISES THE BAR IN PUBLIC MUSIC EXHIBITION

CITY COMMEMORATES INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR DISASTER REDUCTION

CALENDAR

ELECTION DATE SET FOR THE MAYOR, DEPUTY MAYOR AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

CUSTOMER GRATITUDE

CITY TO COMMEMORATES WORLD HIV/AIDS AWARENESS DAY

AND MUCH MORE . . .

NEW CITY BOUNDARIES A POTENTIAL LAND BENEFIT TO CITY GROWTH

The extended boundaries of the City of Windhoek present both challenges and opportunities. The current reality is that the population of Windhoek which now stands at 322,000 is expected to reach a million residents by 2020.

Such growth is characteristic of the urban development of emerging economies and is primarily driven by a rapid rural-urban migration.

Namibia has more people leaving in rural areas who live below the breadline and as such the rural urban movement trend will continue due to better and improved living conditions in towns and in particular to Windhoek as the commercial and administrative hub of the country.

In order to address the rapid pace of urban expansion and the spiralling need for housing and space for commercial urban



Editor's Desk



Josua Amukugo

Manager: Corporate Communications, Marketing, Tourism & Customer Care

The year 2012 that kicked off amazingly is now approaching its local end, leaving behind a conglomeration of success stories, unfinished stories and even undesirable episodes.

Before writing it off, one normally goes via Christmas time which, imminent as it is, offers a special moment for all of us to think back on the past with a sense of nostalgia, and it offers a chance to look forward to the New Year with the eyes of optimism for the future.

But before walking over into the anticipated 2013, the city of Windhoek, in Conjunction with Radio Kosmos 94.1, offered to organize a Christmas Round Table for 2000 Orphans and Vulnerable Children in the City.

This event shall be co sponsored by Checkers and Namibia Breweries limited, and the Prime Minister is expected to be the guest of honour, assisted by the Mayor of the City.

The event is scheduled to take place on the 5th December 2012 at Augustino Neto Park, starting from 09h00-14h00, with the city having offered to provide transport for the kids from the shelters to the venue.

Note should also be taken that Checkers has further offered to indulge elders to a surprising treatment at the treatment at the same venue, on the day preceding the event, whereas kids will be given T-Shirts, refreshments and gifts.

Again, the City has decided to organize a Christmas market experience that would coincide with the worlds Aids day Build up events. The Christmas market is scheduled to

Continued from Page 1

other role players such as NAMWATER, NAMPOWER, the Roads Authority and the Khomas Regional Council to name a few.

The aim of the public meeting was to brief the affected new City residents in the new extended boundary area on the investigation and the expected way forward and also to obtain the residents' concerns on issues that need to be addressed.

The CEO further clarified that the residents

of the new boundaries will continue with their existing land uses, and that the City is not taking away ownership of their land.

It was further clarified that some activities such as land use changes and development proposals as well as building plans will require City's municipal approval from now on as per regular normal municipal requirements applicable to the rest of the City, but that these issues are under investigation and will be clarified and communicated to the residents.

take place from the 30th November to the 3rd December 2012. It is then on the night of the 3rd December 2012. It is then on the night of the 3rd December when the Mayor shall officially switch on the Christmas Lights.

During the Christmas Market period, Businesses in the central Business district shall be required to decorate their businesses and extend their Business hour to 19h00 each day. Christmas Carols shall be played a selected DJ, and traditional cuisines shall be sold.

As if the above activities are not adequate, the city fathers have as well resolved to create a platform for Windhoek residents, The Namibian people and visitors alike, to come together and celebrate the final Countdown of the year, Subsequently, bringing the New Year with anticipation and affluence.

On the New Year's Eve, local food traders will be given a platform to sell a variety

of foods and Drinks while entertainment will be provided by a star-studded line-up of local musicians.

The highlights of the New Year celebration shall be the Fireworks display.

As the clock strikes 23h59, PDK, together with the thousands of people at the event will unite to countdown the seconds into 2013 and watch the spectacular five (5) minutes fireworks display, lightning up the sky over the city.

Music performances are expected from: Ronny, Ongoronmundu, Big Ben, Tequila, Exit/Masqanga, Lady May, 4x4 Too Much power and Tate Buti. Namibia Breweries shall again co-sponsor the event while Hilton Hotel has offered to take care of the fireworks display.

Now that we can all see light the end of the tunnel, thus seeing signs of hope in the future, I can only wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy 2013.

The Aloe is produced by the Corporate Communications, Marketing, Tourism & Customer Care Division in the Office of the Chief Executive Officer. The public is welcome to make constructive submissions via the Editor's Column, and submissions should be forwarded to the following address.

If you wish to make comments, suggestions, contributions or advertise in the Aloe, send an e-mail to communication@windhoekcc.org.na or visit our website for more information

at www.cityofwindhoek.org.na.

Compiled by: **Josua Amukugo**
Manager: Corporate Communications, Marketing, Tourism & Customer Care

Scheifert Shigwedha
Acting PRO & ICO

Editor: **Josua Amukugo**

Design & Layout: **Gerhard Groenwald**
Graphic Designer (ICT)

Printed by: **Solitaire Press**





MAYOR'S MESSAGE

In the photo, Otjomuise ext10, ground breaking ceremony: Hon Jerry Ekandjo and Her Worship the Mayor, Alderman, Elaine Trepper officially breaking the ground for development; also in the photo CEO, Niilo Taapopi and a representative from the consulting engineer.

A RECAP ON LAND DELIVERY

The City is making good progress in addressing land delivery for housing development. The recently commissioned projects on land delivery are well on track and City remains hopeful that the set deadline will be met. The TIPEEG project in Otjomuise extension 10 has so far yield about 150 jobs of whom most of the beneficiaries are residents of the low income areas.

The contractor Burmeister & Partners Consulting Engineers has admitted that they are well on track in delivering the anticipated serviced even by middle of next year. The ground breaking ceremony took place on 17 October 2012, and was officiated by the Minister of Regional and Local Government and Housing and Rural Development, Honourable Jerry Ekandjo.

At the ground breaking ceremony, in raising some concern, the Minister reflected that the poor residents are deprived of land

and it is important that they should also have access to land and that this situation is currently not sustainable, as poor people can do nothing without land as everything that mankind do happens on the land, and that without land one cannot be economically active, let alone living a decent life.

He further indicated that land is a national heritage, and the selling of land could lead to a few rich individuals who could end up owning huge tracks of land at the expense of the poor.

Hon Ekandjo, further indicated that in future central government should consider servicing the land, and that the people should be provided with pre serviced land with municipal amenities.

Municipalities have the right to have departments that should construct houses and that there is currently no law that

prohibits local authorities to construct houses, said the Minister. The Otjomuise Ext 10 TIPEEG land service project is expected to produce 1192 residential ervens, 40 general residential, 5 informal sites, and 3 institutional ervens. A certain percentage of the residential ervens will be allocated to applicants already on the waiting list.

Her Worship the Mayor, in her speech at Council meeting indicated that TIPEEG projects will further be rolled out in the informal settlements of Okahandja Park, Havana and Ongulumbashe and that the engineering designs for these sites are already completed. The City has also allocated a few plots to five private companies to put up demo affordable housing solutions in Otjomuise Ext 8 & 9.

These demos will be evaluated in order to determine their viability in line with municipal building regulations and in safeguarding public safety.

ROLLOUT TO FESTIVE SEASON, CITY'S CHRISTMAS MARKET

30 Nov to 03 Dec, 08:30 to 19:00 @ Zoo Park
Crafted Christmas gifts, Traditional and International cuisine
& lots of fun for your kids

03 Dec - 19:30 @ the Zoo Park

Witness the Switching on of the Christmas Lights and hand over of donation to the Vulnerable by the Mayor assisted by Johanna Benson



As we celebrate Christmas this year, let us remember those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS by echoing the theme "Zero New Infections"



City of many faces



Local artist Shishani entertaining the fan at the Windhoek Jazz festival



WINDHOEK JAZZ FESTIVAL RAISES THE BAR IN PUBLIC MUSIC EXHIBITION

The Windhoek Jazz Festival raised the bar in local music entertainment. The Festival was well organised and attracted fans from all corners of the country, some of the spectators spoken to, could not hid their excitement and commended the City for a job well done. The festival took place on the 3rd November 2012 at the Hage Geingob Stadium.

The artist that included Lira the main acts from South Africa, along with local artist such as Liz Ehrene, Shishani, Pulpit, Denise, Chilling in the Park, The Ugly Creatures and Adora and the international artist, Selaelo Selota. They all moved the fans with their captivating voices and lyrics. Complementing the artists on was the overall set up of the Jazz Festival which the organisers had to spend considerable amount of time in ensuring that the setup of the stage and the rest of the venue layout was innovative, unique, classy and modern. Despite the expenditure hurdle for the City and the other sponsors the event yielded

the much needed value return from the invested funds as it went exceptionally well and set the tone for classy public music events.

The festival can only get better, grow better and ensure that the stakeholders remain committed to keeping the set standard and carry on supporting and developing local talent in jazz music and the general quality of music in Namibia. The Festival has big potential to grow in popularity not only locally but also internationally and can contribute to tourism volumes and help make Windhoek a destination of choice by offering regular innovative entertainment to its visitors and the general public.

Since the Old Mutual Jazz Encounters was introduced for the first time in 2007, the event has grown from strength to strength, Her Worship the Mayor Alderwoman Elaine Trepper, reassured the public and stakeholders at the Jazz festival that City leadership is delighted to be part

of the planning, implementation and development of the Jazz Encounter, now and in the future, and that the city remains committed to the Windhoek Jazz Festival partnership, as it contributes to art and cultural development in the City and thus making Windhoek a lively and an entertaining City for locals and tourists alike.

The City could not have pooled off the event all on its own, therefore credit can be extended to the sponsors namely Old Mutual, Heineken, 99 FM, Air Namibia, Hilton Hotel, DB Audio, Playhouse Theatre, Adforce DDB, NACN, Jameson, Mutual & Federal and Nedbank. City Manager for Economic Development, Ms. Zurilea Steenkamp, delightfully shared and thanked all those that came out and support the event and that it is fulfilling to have succeeded in carrying out the first ever City of Windhoek Jazz Festival, as it is for the first time that the event is hosted by the City and no longer directly by Old Mutual.



Liz Ehrens (second from right) and Lira (third from left) posed for a photo with the fans



Her Worship the Mayor Alderwoman Elaine Trepper and Councillor Brunhilde Cornelius, enjoying the mellow lyrics at the Windhoek Jazz Festival





CITY COMMEMORATES INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR DISASTER REDUCTION

The 2012 theme: “Women and Girls, The Invisible Force of Disaster Resilience.”

Under this global theme, the City of Windhoek and the residents take cognisance of the fact that Women and Girls are powerful agents of change in disaster reduction.

They equally have unique knowledge and skills that are crucial when addressing or managing disaster risks.

The International Day for Disaster Reduction is organized each year on 13 October (GA resolution 64/200 of 21 December 2009). This year the day was observed by the United Nations on Friday, 12 October.

The City of Windhoek has however celebrated the day on 10 October 2012. It is the most widely observed day for raising awareness about disaster risk reduction, creating social demand and mobilizing the wider public to get involved and take ownership of the processes to create disaster resilience.

The aim of International Day for Disaster Reduction 2012 is to acknowledge and appreciate the millions of women and girls who make their communities more

resilient to disasters and climate risks and thus to reap the benefits of and protect their development investments. Too much of the work and achievements of women is of low-visibility – taken for granted.

The 2012 IDDR theme draws attention to the fact that in our most common patriarchal society women's contributions to protect and rebuild their communities before and after disasters are often unrecognized.

One can learn from this adage that Women and Girls are unique and deliberate efforts must be employed to ensure they are well educated and equipped to proactively contribute to disaster risk management.

It is also imperative to note that they are the foundations of resilience – meaning that normally they are the first to prepare their families for a disaster and the first to put communities back together in the aftermath.

The City Council has recently endorsed Windhoek to sign up with the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction's (UNISDR) 'Making Cities

Resilient' Campaign 2010 – 2015. The City council has resolved that:

- The Mayor, be appointed to be the Champion/Good Will Ambassador on behalf of the City.
- The City signs up to the Making Cities Resilient Campaign on a Role Model City status.
- The City sets targets and review the progress made on meeting the disaster resilient interventions.

In addition, building partnerships with organizations involved with gender and disaster risk reduction and profile women and girls' initiatives should be encouraged. It is essential for the City to be prepared for disasters, as compounded and accelerated by global warming that causes draught in some areas and over flooding in other areas.

Namibia and the City is not immune to emergency events that are related to global warming phenomena and as the rainy season approaches the City's emergency services will be at hand to render relief and rescue operations.



At the Disaster Risk Management Official function, from L-R: Nelson Zakaapi, UNDP; Joshua Amukugo, City of Windhoek; Megan Vanturah, UNDP; Abraham Kotokeni Katangolo, Havana Primary School; Ana Maria Nijpare, City of Windhoek; Abel Hamutenya, City of Windhoek.



Calendar

November 2012

Samstag
Saturday
Samedi
Sabado

Sonntag
Dimanche
Domingo

REGULARS

Every Monday

Dance Class - Adults: This ain't granny's dance class anymore! This is Ballroom Dance at it's best! This fun every Monday at Backstage! Do you want to join?

Contact: Martina Schwardmann on 085 141 255 or Gerald on 081 398 5045.

Every Tuesday

Windhoek Harriers Road Running Club, all runners and walkers are invited to attend time trials commencing at 17h45 every Tuesday from United Sports Club in Olympia. Beginners and advanced runners and walkers are welcome. Races are held on a monthly basis.

Contact: Charles Gordon at Tel: +264 (0) 811 249471.

Every Wednesday

Ladies night, every Wednesday night ladies night with your host & DJ Droopy. Everybody free all night long. @ 20:00h Club London V2.0 (used to be LaDeeDa's). Strictly no under 18's. 4 Nasmith Street, Southern Industrial

Karaoke, Pool and Cocktail Party, Join the bliss crew every Wednesday @ 19:00 till late for Karaoke and cocktails. Received the new equipment for the karaoke with some great new karaoke tracks. Doubles pool competitions for entry fee of N\$ 20.00. And N\$ 250.00 prize money. Happy hour will commence every night from 8pm to 9pm! Presley's (former Bliss) Cnr. Nasmith & Joule Streets, Southern Industrial.

Every Thursday

Reggae & Dancehall, 264 Lounge, Base FM and Crucial Productions hosts Reggae & Dancehall Thursdays at 264 Lounge (66 Rehobother Road, opposite Ritters Toyota, Ausspanplatz), featuring The Crucially Crucial Seleckta & other guest Selekta's and Mc's. Doors open at 7pm. 7-9pm free entry. 9 pm till late entry fee is 20 N\$

Karaoke with Tony, Great entertainment! Come join the fun even if you don't sing - always a good laugh. @22h00 @ Dylan's, free entrance, for more information contact 081 - 1287664

Every Friday, Saturday & Sunday

Family Fun, Join us for some fun with your kids - Electric quads, peddle karts, 30ft bungee sling shot, paddle boats, Gyro, climbing tower, jumping castles and a Cafe full of refreshments and snacks. Opening Times: Friday 12pm - 6pm & Weekends 10am - 6pm @ Kids Bush Park.

Every Saturday

Green Market/ Biomarket, fresh vegetables are available and milk products and many organic products are on sale. Venue: 3-5 Umland Street in Klein Windhoek. Time: 09h00-12h00.

For more information please contact Inge Glaue: 061 - 239 555.

Relax at Penduka Namibia on the banks of Goreangab Dam; Enjoy a relaxing day on the banks of Goreangab Dam in the Penduka restaurant, shop for batik, table & bed linen and fine embroidery products in the craft shop. Bungalows are available for those who want to enjoy a weekend away from the bustle of the city.

Dance Class for Kids: Duration: about one hour (regular event, every Saturday) starts @ 10h00 Backstage Dinner Theatre.

For more information contact: 081 - 277 42 12

Kapana Soul Sessions: 'soul food soul music', Every Saturday 12pm till late @ Garlic & Flower Restaurant. With live acts from 18:00. Soul Food Soul Music. N\$ 20, from 3pm @ the door Beats start bumping at 2pm.

For more info contact: 081 3441466.

Every Sunday

Horse Riding for Kids, Come and enjoy horse riding for the kids while you indulge in coffee

and cake. To find the stables, follow the road to Avis Dam and turn left through the green gate just before the road to the dam turns right. @15h00. Horse Stables in Avis.

Ultimate (Frisbee) Game, UNAM students have been getting together Sunday afternoons at 16:00 for pick up games of Ultimate (Frisbee). This fun, and action packed sport is played with a flying disc and two teams. Come on out and have some ultimate fun!

Organiser: Daniel Socha, University of Namibia Lawn @16h00 <https://www.facebook.com/events/223382647771720>

EXHIBITIONS

28 Nov - 02 Dec: City of Windhoek Christmas Market. Join the city during this week for a fun filled Christmas spirit, with an array of activities, for young, old and family outings. Venue: Zoo Park, along Independence Avenue.

For more information, please contact Ms. Fortune Nanus, at (061) 290 3634, or e-mail: Fortune.Nanus@windhoekcc.org.na

11 Oct - 08 Nov: Speech Bubble - Exhibition of Comic Strips made in Namibia, "Speech Bubble" will show the comics created during the workshop as well as the process that lead up to the final products. The comics will also be printed in what is probably the first comic book for children created and published in Namibia. @18h30 at the Blue Frog Restaurant. Free entrance

16 Oct - 08 Nov: Exhibition 'Worms and Fractals' by Gerdis Stadtherr. In this exhibition Gerdis Stadtherr follows up on three previous ones: "Samples Of Soil" (2009, Studio 77), "Man is Made of Clay" (2011, Studio 77) and "Endless Entities: Roses" (2000, Atelier Kendzia). The artist is mainly interested in the functions, structures and processes of everyday life that "tame the chaos" around us and aims to express it by doing artwork. Goethe Centre (061 225700) @19h15. Free entrance.





Calendar

November 2012

CARNIVAL

01 – 03 Nov

2012 Hair, Nails & Skin Expo, Invited USA, RSA Celebrities, On-Site Hairstyles, Hair Vendors, Hair Care Product Suppliers & Manufacturers, Health & Beauty Products Distributors, Salon Owners, Nail Salons, Blow Dryers, Brushes, Free Hair Design Classes & Seminars. @ Hilton Hotel

30 Nov

Dos Santos Models - Opening Event, 50 first sexy people get a free cocktail. Normal ticket will be sold at the door, VIP-Sold by the sexy Dos Santos ladies.

Your own and finest DJ Chello.

There will be a professional photographer so dress to impress! VIP guest will be served at the best! Vibe (Old G-Zone Lounge Bar) @ 21h00

THEATRE

23 Nov

Actors Workshop with Sello Maake Ka-Ncube, The focus is on acting skills and -techniques that are transferable to all other endeavours such as poise, diction, projection, confidence, and health on an existential level.

The principal aim of the course is to provide the candidate with a theoretical and practical background of the art of drama, and to prepare him/her for a career in acting. Registration fee N\$ 50 at NTN. For more info contact 061 374400

MUSIC PERFORMANCES

03 Nov

Windhoek Jazz Festival, formerly know as the Old Mutual Jazz Festival, brings a number of internally renowned jazz artists

in the SADC region. For more information, please contact Ms. Fortune Nanus, at (061) 290 3634, or e-mail: frn@windhoekcc.org.na.

SCREENINGS

07 Nov

AfricAvenir Movie Night 'Imam and I', 'Imam and I' is the debut feature length documentary by independent South African filmmaker Khalid Shamis. "Imam and I" is a fascinating and detailed personal journey through the life, death and legacy of little known apartheid struggle hero Imam Abdullah Haron.

The film is an intricate blend of archive, animation and live action interwoven with recollections and stories of those closest to the Imam. Organiser: AfricAvenir & FNCC, contact details: 061 387330 @18h30 entrance N\$ 10.

ELECTION DATE SET FOR THE MAYOR, DEPUTY MAYOR AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, and 5 members of the Management Committee (MC) are approaching the end of their term and elections of new office bearers is scheduled to take place at a special Council meeting to be held on 26

November 2012, as from 14H30, which will be followed by with the inauguration ceremony on the same day.

This is a legal requirements in conformity with the Local Authority Act, 23 of 1992,

which states that the Office Bearers will serve for a period of one year. The serving team of office bearers took office on 02 December 2011. The last ordinary Council meeting for this year will take place on the 21st November 2012, 18H 00.

CUSTOMER GRATITUDE

Dear Mr Kanime

Assistance: 11 August 2012

We know that it is way late, but we as parents, teachers and staff of Kleinplasia pre-school, would like to thank all the staff that were involved in assisting the parents and learners on 11 August 2012.

Despite vehicle difficulties experienced by police officers, we were escorted in a super professional manner and felt safe at all times.

Thank you, thank you once again! Thank you for sacrificing your time with your families on a weekend. We honor you for that!

It is our sincerest prayer that God will protect you in your call of duty and keep His mighty Wing over you.

We salute you!

Warm regards

Parents and staff of Kleinplasia





Dr Martin Odit, UNAIDS; Alderman Boas Ekanjo, City of Windhoek; Niilo Taapopi, CEO, City of Windhoek; Mary-Anne Kahitu, City of Windhoek; Henk Van Renterghem, UNAIDS; Dr Desta Tiruneh, WHO; Ms. Sara Mwilima, UNDP and Cllr Matrid Ukeva, City of Windhoek.

Mr. Niilo Taapopi, CEO, City of Windhoek; Her Worship the Mayor, Alderwoman Elaine Trepper, City of Windhoek; Governor of the Khomas Region, Hon Samuel Nuyoma; Ms. Sara Mwilima, UNDP and Mr. Henk Van Renterghem, Country Representative, UNAIDS.



CITY TO COMMEMORATES WORLD HIV/AIDS AWARENESS DAY

It has become a tradition to join the world in the commemoration of World AIDS Day every year as our contribution to the global and national response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Our contribution in this regard stems from our mandate, as well as our legal and moral obligation to respond to the local HIV/AIDS epidemic, as stipulated in the National Strategic Framework on HIV/AIDS in Namibia (NSF).

The significance of the World AIDS Day commemoration to the City of Windhoek (CoW) cannot be over emphasized since our country features amongst the top five worst hit countries in the world with an HIV/AIDS prevalence of about 18.8%, and approximately 40 new infections occurring every day, and with an estimated HIV/AIDS prevalence of about 15%, and about 28 000 new infections for Windhoek. Equally, World AIDS Day presents an ideal opportunity for key players to reflect on the current response, as well as to reiterate commitments to renewed efforts towards the global Getting to Zero (zero new HIV infections, zero discrimination and zero AIDS related deaths) Campaign.

Consequently, as the custodian of local public health and hence the ideal coordinator of the local response, the CoW will use the World AIDS Day 2012 opportunity to make a meaningful contribution towards global and national efforts aimed at getting to Zero, by hosting this year's event in close collaboration with our partners and stakeholders. World AIDS Day 2012 will again accord Her Worship the Mayor of Windhoek, Councillors and management the rare opportunity to, on behalf of the CoW workforce and residents solemnly commit the CoW to facilitating a sustainable and well-coordinated HIV/AIDS in Windhoek.

This year's World AIDS Day will be commemorated on 5 December 2012 as a build-up to the national event planned for 07 December in the Erongo Region. As is customary, this year's event targets the CoW workforce and Windhoek residents, but with particular focus on the informal settlements. The Informal Settlements are again deliberately chosen as the target group in light of recent findings from the KYE/KYR study suggesting that the burden of the local epidemic is more severe in these areas than in other parts of the City.

According to Namibia's Vision 2030, the HIV/AIDS epidemic continues to be the most serious threat to public health and sustainable human development for Namibia. Namibia currently has an estimated national prevalence of 18.8% of adults living with HIV and AIDS according to 2008/9 estimates.

The current HIV prevalence rate is worrisome and remains unacceptably high after 20 years of intervention geared toward reducing the number of new infections and addressing the challenges in an HIV and AIDS hyper-endemic country. Moreover, recent analysis has found that a substantial proportion of the national HIV epidemic is found within cities and towns. With the increase in both urbanization and urban populations, the HIV epidemic is expected to grow in proportion within these growing urban populations.

Strengthening the City of Windhoek Response to HIV/AIDS: Finding Solutions

Following a half day seminar on Intensifying the Urban Response to HIV/AIDS in Namibia organized by UNAIDS, AMICAAL and UN

Habitat in partnership with the City of Windhoek, the City committed itself to contribute meaningfully to the national AIDS response, and to develop an evidence-base strategic plan to guide our response to the urban aspects of the HIV/AIDS epidemic as per our mandate as a Local Authority.

The City acknowledges the seriousness of the HIV/AIDS pandemic worldwide and the epidemic in Namibia in particular and seeks to minimize the social, economic and developmental consequences of the epidemic to the City of Windhoek residents and employees. The City is the highest governing body in Windhoek, responsible for the socio-economic development, health and safety of its residents and visitors. In the area of HIV/AIDS the City focuses on promoting and strengthening both the internal (employees internal workplace programme) and the external (City of Windhoek residents) HIV/AIDS response in Windhoek.

The 2012 event will be commemorated under the global theme of "Getting to Zero: Zero New HIV Infections, Zero Stigma and Discrimination, Zero AIDS Related Deaths which started in 2011, and runs until 2015, with a focus on Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT), which is the area of focus for the National Event. The City's campaign also focuses on interventions such as Medical Male Circumcision (MMC), Condom Promotion, Behavioural Change Communication (BCB), and Treatment and Care.

