

**OFFICIAL STATEMENT BY HER WORSHIP CLLR TECKLA UWANGA, DEPUTY MAYOR OF THE CITY OF WINDHOEK, AT THE OCCASION OF THE 10TH ORDINARY MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING FOR 2018**

**DATE: 25 OCTOBER 2018**

**TIME: 18H00**

**VENUE: COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**Hon Matheus Joel Amadhila, Chairperson of the Management Committee of the City of Windhoek;**

**Honourable Councillors;**

**Rev. Brian Mbazuvara, Inner City Lutheran Congregation;**

**Mr. Reckliff Kandjiriomuini, Acting Chief Executive Officer;**

**Strategic Executives and other Officials of the City of Windhoek;**

**Esteemed Windhoek Residents;**

**Members of the Media;**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

**Good evening!**

I am pleased to welcome you all to this August House, as we gather here for our 10th Ordinary Council Meeting for the year 2018. I am happy to observe that our residents continue to attend our meetings and deliberations, an indication of their interest in the development of our city.

**Honourable Councillors, Ladies and Gentlemen**

The City of Windhoek as a learning organisation, attaches a high premium on International Relations and Cooperation, as a stepping stone for mutual learning and improved municipal service delivery.

To this end, we continue to interact with other cities locally, in the region and beyond. Allow me therefore to use the opportunity to welcome our guests from the City of Francistown in Botswana, led by Councillor J.P. Gunda who are in Windhoek on a benchmarking visit.

We are pleased to have you in our midst and welcome you to our Council Chambers and our City.

I am reliably informed that discussions with our teams during the past two days visit focussed on Solid Waste Management, collection and transportation of waste, as well as, matters related to Youth and Vulnerable groups programmes.

Tonight marks the final day of the study visit, therefore, I found it appropriate to invite the delegation to attend our Council meeting, as part of an exchange on democratic Governance. I hope you have so far enjoyed your stay and are finding your study visit value adding.

On behalf of the Council and the entire citizenry of Windhoek, I invite you to feel home away from home and also wish you a safe journey back home tomorrow.

**Hon Councillors, Esteemed residents,**

That being said, I would like to focus my address on current affairs and some of the activities that took place during the month of October.

* From 18-19 October, City of Windhoek, in collaboration with key partners hosted a commemorative event to celebrate the 50 years of Direct Potable Reuse of water, under the theme *“Direct Potable Re-use with a Clean Bill”.*

The celebration brought participants from sister Cities in the region such as Cape Town and Johannesburg, as well as water experts from USA, China and Australia, and also those from within the country.

This is a clear indication that the City of Windhoek being one of the leading agent, on water reuse technologies has become a reputable authority in water Management.

While congratulating the organisers for the successful event, I would like to use this opportunity to assure our residents that the Windhoek water is still the safest and best water to drink.

**Esteem residents,**

* Am pleased to announce that the Vice President of the Republic of Namibia, Dr. Nangolo Mbumba inaugurated the City of Windhoek`s Health Care Risk Waste Facility on the 11 October 2018.

The facility will cater for proper handling and management of Medical waste of Health Centres and Hospitals both public and private in Windhoek as well as in surrounding towns such as Okahandja, Rehoboth and Gobabis. I thus would once again like to call upon all those in the Health sector to make use of this state of the art Facility.

* On health related matters, the City of Windhoek, in partnership with United Nations Children’s Fund, Namibia Red Cross Society and other stakeholders, hosted the Health and Hygiene Promotion Month, on 17 October, an event aimed at promoting health and hygiene at School Setup, Food Handling Markets and the Windhoek Community at large.

The commemoration focussed on *“Global Hand Washing Day”*, re-emphasizing the importance of washing hands with clean water and soap, as a primary and most effective measure in preventing the spread of communicable diseases.

The day was commemorated at Goreangab Soccer Field, which is also one of the areas where most cases of Hepatitis E occurred. The commemoration was part of enhancing the existing programmes running in the area to spread the message of correct hand washing in an effort to curb the further spread of the Hepatitis E virus.

**Hon Councillors, Esteem Residents,**

* On the entertainment front, I am pleased to inform you that the City of Windhoek’s much anticipated Jazz Festival 2018, which was launched on 19 September 2018, by the Patron, Hon Katrina Hanse-Himarua, Minister of Education and has arrived. As we all know, Music is a universal language that can unite people across cultures.

Its unifying power could be attested, when the Windhoek Jazz Festival last year attracted about 4000 spectators from all walks of life, who assembled at the Independence Stadium to enjoy the festival.

The hosting of the Windhoek Jazz Festival continues to significantly contribute to elevating Windhoek’s status as a vibrant City, both culturally and artistically. It is also important to note that due to its increasing magnitude and evolution, there is significant scope for the involvement of more stakeholders as it develops into a truly noteworthy Windhoek event. This year there will be great line up of international as well as local artists taking up the stage on that day.

It therefore gives me great pleasure to invite you to the 2018 Windhoek Jazz Festival, which will take place on Saturday, the 03rd of November 2018, at the Independence Stadium.

With these remarks, Honourable Councillors and Esteemed Residents,

I thank you!