



REMARKS BY HER WORSHIP, COUNCIL MEMBER NDESHIHAFELA LARANDJA, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF WINDHOEK, ON THE OCCASION OF THE JOINT CEREMONY OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU'S) BETWEEN THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF WINDHOEK AND SISTER LOCAL AUTHORITIES AS WELL AS WITH THE NATIONAL HERITAGE COUNCIL

DATE: 21 FEBRUARY 2025

TIME: 11H00

VENUE: COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Program Director, Mr. Christopher Eita, Manager: External Relations and Networking;

Mayors from all the Local Authorities present today;

Your Worship, Council Member Clemencia Hanases, Deputy Mayor of the City of Windhoek and other Deputy Mayors present today;

Council member Illse Keister, Chairperson of the Management Committee of the City of Windhoek and other Chairperson of Management Committees present today;

Honourable Councillors from all the Local Authorities present today;

Mr. Moses Matyayi, Chief Executive Officer of the City of Windhoek in abstentia;

Mr Faniel I. Maanda, acting chief Executive Officer of the City of Windhoek and other Chief Executive Officers present today;

Ms. Erica Ndalikokule, Director, National Heritage Council of Namibia and your team present here today;

Executives, Senior Officers, and Officials from both Local Authorities and the National Heritage Council present today;

Members of the Media;

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning!

It is my distinct honour and privilege to stand before you today on this significant occasion where we reaffirm our commitment to collaboration, shared progress, and sustainable development. This event marks the renewal and expansion of our Memorandum of Understandings (MOU's) with various local authorities, as well as the formalization of an Agreement with the National Heritage Council. These agreements symbolize our shared vision to strengthen local governance, preserve our rich heritage, and improve the quality of life for all our citizens.

As the capital city, Windhoek has a responsibility to lead by example in fostering unity and cooperation among local authorities. Today, we are pleased to **renew our Memorandum of Understandings (MOU's)** with the following esteemed Local Authorities:

- Aranos Town Council
- Otjinene Village Council
- Outjo Municipality
- Otavi Town Council
- Opuwo Town Council

Furthermore, we are proud to **welcome new sister Local Authorities** into this partnership, namely:

- **Aroab Village Council**
- **Bethanie Village Council**
- **Kalkrand Village Council**
- **Omaruru Municipality**

These partnerships are not merely symbolic but serve as active frameworks for cooperation, aimed at addressing common challenges and advancing shared development goals. While each MoU outlines specific areas of collaboration, the following key areas of cooperation are common across most agreements:

- **Waste Management** – Developing sustainable strategies to manage and reduce waste.
- **Economic Development and Trade** – Creating economic opportunities and facilitating investment.
- **Town Planning and Land Management** – Improving urban planning for better service delivery.
- **Local Economic Development** – Supporting small businesses and entrepreneurship.

- **Environmental Management** – Implementing policies to protect and sustain our natural resources.
- **Human Resource and Capacity Building** – Investing in people, as they are the backbone of local governance.

It is only through unity and shared effort that we can overcome challenges and create thriving communities. The lessons we learn from one another will enable us to build stronger, more resilient municipalities that meet the needs of our people.

On this same occasion, the City of Windhoek is also signing a **Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with the National Heritage Council**. This agreement reflects our deep commitment to preserving the cultural, historical, and architectural heritage of our city and its surroundings.

Heritage is not just about monuments and historic sites - it is the soul of our identity. It tells the story of our people, their struggles, achievements, and contributions to history. Through this agreement, we will work hand in hand to **research, plan,**

protect, educate, and promote our heritage in its various forms.

By safeguarding our historical sites, structures, and archaeological treasures, we ensure that future generations can continue to appreciate the rich tapestry of Windhoek's past. Heritage preservation is not just about honoring history; it is about using our past to inform our present and inspire our future.

Ladies and Gentlemen, as we embark on these renewed and new partnerships, let us be reminded that cooperation and collaboration are the cornerstones of success. As local authorities, we have a duty to work together, to support one another, and to find innovative solutions to the challenges we face.

The City of Windhoek stands ready to share knowledge, expertise, and best practices with our fellow local authorities. Together, we can build a future where all our municipalities thrive, where economic growth is inclusive, and where our natural and cultural heritage remains a source of pride for generations to come.

In conclusion, I extend my gratitude to all our partner both long-standing and new for their commitment to these agreements. May our collaboration yield tangible benefits for all our communities, and may our joint efforts create a legacy of excellence and sustainable development.

I thank you.

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