

OPENING REMARKS BY HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR, ALDERMAN IMMANUEL WILFRIED, ON THE OCCASION OF THE TABLING OF THE 2020-2021 BUDGET

Thursday, 28th May 2020, @ 16:30

Council Chambers, Civic Centre

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Honourable Neville Andre, Governor of the Erongo Region;

Honourable John Nangolo, Walvis Bay Rural Constituency Councillor and Member of Parliament:

Honourable Knowledge Ipinge, Walvis Bay Urban Constituency Councillor;

Fellow Councillors;

Reverend Aletta Nyati;

The Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Muronga Haingura;

Management and all staff members present;

Distinguished invited guests;

Members of the Media.

I am once again in the privileged position to welcome you to this important gathering which will focus on the tabling of the 2020/2021 Budget for Council's deliberation and adoption.

We appreciate the effort by everyone who has decided to attend this extra-ordinary council meeting. It could not have been an easy decision, given the circumstances in which we must live these days as a result of COVID-19. If it is any consolation however, we would like to ensure you that the Council Chamber has been properly sanitized and prepared before your arrival.

We would also like to thank you for adhering to the basic protocol in ensuring your own and other people's safety.

It will be tough going forward – for all of us – and our collective resolve to make it work will be more telling this time around than ever before. As the Chairperson of Management Committee will reveal, the new budget will continue to demonstrate Council's determination to sustain and improve service delivery to the inhabitants of Walvis Bay.

During the first stage of the Lockdown, which was difficult for everyone, I have observed how diligently so many of our residents have continued to pay their bills, sometimes queueing up in very unpleasant weather conditions. We are humbled by the community's continued support and thank them most sincerely.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I now have the pleasure to announce that Councillor Lilo Niilenge, Chairperson of the Management Committee, is ready to go into more detail as she will table the Budget for the 2020/2021 Financial Year.

Thank you, Councillor Niilenge.