



**ADDRESS BY H.W. THE MAYOR,
ALDERMAN IMMANUEL WILFRIED,
AT THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY, 29 SEPTEMBER 2020, 18:00**

VENUE: COUNCIL CHAMBER, KUISEBMOND

Fellow Councillors

Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Muronga Haingura & Municipal Staff

Members of the Community

Members of the Media

Ladies and Gentlemen

The current council is about to complete the final two months of its five-year term. In an ideal world, without disruptions such as Covid-19, we would have had the luxury of concluding all our outstanding projects without much difficulty. The outgoing Council, however, will do everything in its power to ensure a smooth handover to the new Council.

It will be unavoidable that some projects will have to continue under the leadership of the new Council, while some are continuous projects in any event. Before the local authority elections take place, we will take stock of our major achievements over the past few years. This will show that we have always been serious about the wellbeing of our residents and the growth of Walvis Bay, despite the many stumbling blocks from time to time.

One of the most talked about topics the past few years has been the provision of housing, which has received extra attention this year. There have been many proposals on how to create dignified housing for those who can least afford to pay for it. Some companies are serious about constructing housing units for their employees, while some consortiums are willing to venture into the construction of social housing units.

The Council, as the main facilitator, has been at the forefront of coordinating these efforts. What cannot be accepted, however, is that any type of housing should come free of charge. Most people appreciate that and will therefore see through the cheap and empty promises of the political agitators, who in most instances have only their own interests at heart.

What we must strive for is economic growth and job creation, so that all our people will be able to afford decent housing. This should be one of our key focus areas in our updated strategic plan for Walvis Bay. Reviving the economy should be the central focus of all stakeholders. By putting our heads together, I am confident that we will be able to overcome most of our economic challenges.

Regardless of the short period left, this Council undertakes to honour its mandate of attaining as many development projects as possible before November. We will work until our last day in office.

Councillors, Ladies and Gentlemen;

As promised, I undertake to deliver more detailed statements at our next ordinary council meetings, so this concludes my statement for this evening.

Thank you for your attention.