

OPENING REMARKS BY HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR,

COUNCILLOR TREVINO FORBES,

ON THE OCCASION OF THE TABLING OF THE 2021-2022 BUDGET

TUESDAY, 11TH MAY 2021, @ 18:00 KUISEBMOND COUNCIL CHAMBERS, NATHANIEL MAXUILILI AVENUE, KUISEBMOND

Honourable Florian T Donatus, Walvis Bay Rural Constituency Councillor Honourable Deriou Benson, Walvis Bay Urban Constituency Councillor;

Fellow Councillors;

Reverend Robert Smith;

Mr. Frans !Gonteb, Acting Chief Executive Officer;

Management and all staff members present;

Distinguished invited guests;

Members of the Media.

It is my privilege to welcome you to this important gathering which will focus on the tabling of the 2021/2022 Budget & Tariffs for Council's deliberation and adoption.

We appreciate the effort by everyone who has decided to attend this extra-ordinary Council meeting. We would also like to thank you for adhering to the basic protocol in ensuring your own and other people's safety.

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. Considering the total outstanding debt of N\$ 293 million, i would humbly encourage our residents to keep on paying your utility services. This will ensure that Council will continuously be able to provide much needed services as mandated by the legislation.

I also urge all residents to make use of the Amnesty interest period that is applicable until the end of December this year.

Council had consultative meetings with the public last week from Wednesday to Friday. These consultations assist Council in obtaining some valuable contributions from our residents on matters that Council should focus on and what the residents expectations are. Based on the outcome and the recommendations of the residents, Council feels it is now also in a better position to better plan for projects in the next financial year and beyond.

Lastly, I would like to remind everyone to please make use of the Mayoral suggestion boxes. Your input and suggestions via these boxes is a communication tool with Council and it would be appreciated and equally considered during our planning.

Ladies and gentlemen, I now have the pleasure to announce that Councilor Leroy Victor, Chairperson of the management Committee, is ready to go into more details as he will table the budget for the 2021/2022 Financial year.

Thank you, Councilor Victor.