


MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF MANZINI		
QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM	Doc Ref No.	TC-ADMIN-FRM-033
	Revision Status	Issue 01
OFFICIAL SPEECHES	Revision Date	29.06.2021
	Approved By	Chief Executive Officer



**REMARKS BY HER WORSHIP THE MAYOR, COUNCILLOR NOZIPHO  
DLAMINI-GAMEDZE, DURING THE CELEBRATION OF WORLD CITIES  
DAY 2023**


Date: 02<sup>nd</sup> November 2023    Venue: Mavuso Trade Centre    Time: 10am

- PROGRAMME DIRECTOR
- ACTING PRINCIPAL SECRETARY IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT
- UNITED NATIONS RESIDENT COORDINATOR
- MANZINI REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR
- HONOURABLE COUNCILLORS PRESENT
- ELAMA CHAIRPERSON
- ESWATINI TOWN PLANNERS ASSOCIATION CHAIRPERSON
- MEMBERS OF MANAGEMENT & EMPLOYEES FROM THE VARIOUS ESWATINI MUNICIPALITIES
- MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA
- DISTINGUISHED GUESTS
- LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

**GREETINGS TO YOU ALL.**

- I AM HONOURED TO STAND BEFORE YOU TODAY AND SAY A FEW REMARKS ON BEHALF OF ALL THE MUNICIPALITIES AS WE CELEBRATE WORLD CITIES DAY.
- MOST IMPORTANTLY, I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS OUR APPRECIATION TO OUR PARENT MINISTRY, THE MINISTRY OF


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HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, FOR THE WISDOM IN HOSTING SUCH AN IMPORTANT EVENT IN OUR COUNTRY.

- PROGRAMME DIRECTOR; IT IS WITHOUT DOUBT THAT TOWNS AND CITIES PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRY. IT IS ALSO A FACT THAT TOWNS AND CITIES SERVE A LARGE POPULATION OF CITIZENS WHO EITHER RESIDE, DO BUSINESS OR COME TO THE URBAN AREAS FOR A VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES, NEEDS AND EXPECTATIONS.
- ALL OF THIS CALLS FOR THE MUNICIPALITIES, WHOSE ROLE IS TO FACILITATE DEVELOPMENT AND ENSURE A GOOD QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL CITIZENS, TO CONSTANTLY THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX AND DELIVER QUALITY, RELEVANT AND SUSTAINABLE SERVICES TO THEIR TOWNS AND CITIES.
- PROGRAMME DIRECTOR; THIS IS A DAY FOR US AS MUNICIPALITIES TO LOOK BACK AND CELEBRATE THE PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS WE HAVE MADE IN VARIOUS AREAS SUCH AS INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT, CITY SUSTAINABILITY PRACTICES, SERVICE DELIVERY INNOVATION, SOCIAL INCLUSION AND ECONOMIC GROWTH.
- I AM CONFIDENT TO STAND BEFORE YOU AND SAY THAT EACH AND EVERYONE OF THE TOWNS AND CITIES IN OUR LOVELY KINGDOM HAVE OVER THE YEARS INVESTED RESOURCES AND MADE A MARK IN ALL OF THE ABOVE AREAS. THIS CALLS FOR A ROUND OF APPLAUSE.
- PROGRAMME DIRECTOR; THIS HAS HAPPENED NOTWITHSTANDING THE MANY CHALLENGES THAT CONTINUE TO CONFRONT OUR TOWNS AND CITIES; SUCH AS POPULATION GROWTH,


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URBANIZATION, ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES, FISCAL CHALLENGES AND INADEQUATE INFRASTRUCTURE.

- I MUST SAY, HOWEVER, THAT AS TOWNS AND CITIES WE HAVE NOT RESIGNED OURSELVES TO THE CHALLENGES BUT HAVE ROLLED-UP OUR SLEEVES AND COLLABORATIVELY MADE AN EFFORT TO FIND SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS. AGAIN, I WOULD LIKE TO APPLAUD ALL THE TOWNS AND CITIES OF ESWATINI FOR THAT.
- PROGRAMME DIRECTOR; I MUST SAY THAT AS URBAN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN ESWATINI WE CONTINUE TO PRIORITISE SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT; AS GUIDED BY THE 2030 UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS.
- WE CONTINUE TO FOCUS ATTENTION ON INITIATIVES THAT ARE AIMED AT REDUCING CARBON EMISSIONS, IMPROVING PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION, PROMOTING THE USE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY, ENHANCING WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS AND CREATING GREEN SPACES. WE ALSO CONTINUE TO PRIORITISE RESILIENT URBAN PLANNING IN ORDER TO MITIGATE THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE.
- IT IS TRUE THAT WE HAVE NOT YET REACHED OUR DESTINATION; HENCE WE GET EVEN MORE MOTIVATED AND INSPIRED WHEN ORGANISATIONS SUCH AS THE UN-HABITAT AND THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANISATION (FAO) TAKE INTEREST IN WHAT WE DO AND PLEDGE SUPPORT. SDG 17 CALLS FOR PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS; AND INDEED WE CANNOT HOPE TO GET ANYWHERE WITHOUT LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS.
- PROGRAMME DIRECTOR; AS MUNICIPALITIES WE CONTINUE TO PRIORITISE ISSUES OF SOCIAL INCLUSION AND EQUAL

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL CITIZENS IN OUR VARIOUS TOWNS AND CITIES. AGAIN; I SPEAK WITH CONFIDENCE WHEN I SAY THAT ALL ESWATINI MUNICIPALITIES HAVE OVER THE YEARS INTRODUCED VARIOUS INITIATIVES AIMED AT PROVERTY REDUCTION, FACILITATING ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE, PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY AND CREATING INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES. AGAIN, THERE IS STILL MORE THAT WE NEED TO DO AND WE RELY ON ADVICE, PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS WITH THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT, PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTOR INSTITUTIONS AS WELL AS CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS.

- PROGRAMME DIRECTOR; MAY I END MY REMARKS BY EMPHASISING ON THE IMPORTANT ISSUE OF CITIZEN PARTICIPATION. AS ESWATINI MUNICIPALITIES WE CONTINUE TO ATTACH GREAT VALUE IN CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATION IN DECISION-MAKING. THAT IS THE REASON WE HAVE INTRODUCED VARIOUS INITIATIVES THAT PROMOTE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN OUR TOWNS AND CITIES. THESE INCLUDE PARTICIPATORY INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLANNING, PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING AS WELL AS COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN SOME OF OUR COMMUNITY PROJECTS. SOME OF US HAVE ALSO INVESTED IN PLATFORMS FOR PURPOSES OF PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY FEEDBACK.
- WE URGE ALL CITIZENS TO CONTINUE MAKING USE OF THESE PARTICIPATION FORUMS FOR SHARING OF KNOWLEDGE, BEST PRACTICES AND EVEN RESOURCES SO THAT WE EFFECTIVELY ADDRESS COMMON URBAN CHALLENGES AND MAKE OUR TOWNS AND CITIES ACHIEVE FIRST WORLD STATUS.

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- PROGRAMME DIRECTOR; WITH THESE FEW REMARKS, I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO WELCOME ALL PRESENT IN THIS EXCITING GATHERING TO THE VIBRANT CITY OF MANZINI. PLEASE FEEL COMFORTABLE AND ENJOY THE REST OF TODAY'S PROGRAMME.

**I THANK YOU.**

**END**

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