



MEDIA BRIEFING STATEMENT ON THE STATE OF OUR BULK SERVICES REPAYMENTS

2 MARCH 2021

DELIVERED BY:

**HIS WORSHIP CLLR. DR. JOB AMUPANDA
MAYOR**

Good afternoon members of the media,

It is prudent for the City of Windhoek to inform our residents about the state of payments to our bulk service providers as there has been a lot of information floating around the media and we would like to state the fact as follows:

NAMPOWER:

The City of Windhoek has been on record on several occasions informing its residents and stakeholders about the state of our cash flow. The shortage of cash flow in the past has resulted in the City owing NamPower N\$268 million as of 27th January 2020. At that point we entered in formal settlement arrangements with NamPower and we committed to repay our arrears by 1 March 2021. The City has honoured its payment arrangements and has made the last payment as agreed yesterday on the 1 March 2021.

We can confidently confirm that all our arrears with NamPower has been settled and the **current balance is zero** as of today, 2 March 2021. And going forward we are committed to pay our current account, which is on average N\$130 million per month.

NAMWATER:

Since November 2020, the City of Windhoek has a payment arrangement with NamWater whereby our payments period was extended from 30 days to 45 days. The City has not defaulted on this arrangement as the next payment is scheduled for the 15th March 2021, which will be honoured accordingly.

It is worth noting that our average monthly bill from NamWater has been around N\$50 million for the last few months.

COVID-19 IMPACT:

The City has not been spared by the negative impact of COVID-19, and our debts outstanding has drastically increased with N\$150 million since the state of emergency was first announced in March 2020. At that point and time, we could not

disconnect services for our residents as per instructions by our line Ministry. In addition, the City has been providing free water to the residents of the informal settlements which amounts to N\$6 million a month from the beginning of the state of emergency, of which the City has only been refunded N\$12 million from central government through our line Ministry. The City's cash flow is still under severe constraints, and as part of our Credit Control Policy we will continue to employ all efforts including disconnection of services, to ensure that we are able to continue supplying municipal services uninterrupted.

As we endeavour to make Windhoek a better place to live in for all our residents, I am encouraging our residents, private and public sectors, to continue honoring their payments timely for the services consumed.

If you can bring your part, we will surely bring our part to provide the required municipal services as per our mandate.

I thank you very much for your attention.

For further enquiries, please contact

**City of Windhoek
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Corporate Communications, Marketing, and Public Participation
Tel.: +264 61 290 3797 /2044
cowcommunication@windhoekcc.org.na**