

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

Monday, 31 January 2022

CLARIFICATION OF CONTEXT SURROUNDING APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM BY CITY OF WINDHOEK ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (MS J. COMALIE) AS SHARED ON SOCIAL MEDIA

The City of Windhoek is aware of a post circulating on social media, posted by the former mayor, Dr Job Amupanda, in relation to the portion of the page depicting Ms. Jennifer Comalie, the acting Chief Executive Officer's signatures.

The page is a portion of an internal memorandum in which Ms. Comalie is recommending in her capacity as the substantive strategic executive: Finance and Customer Services, as well as approving, in her capacity as the acting Chief Executive Officer, this statement provides context and clarity on the matter.

The memorandum, for which no further context was provided in the social media post, implied that there was a breach in corporate governance practices and that Ms Comalie acted erroneously and in an irregular manner. The memorandum related to the appointment of an official to act in the position of strategic executive: Finance and Customer Services. In accordance with the City of Windhoek personnel rules (Conditions of Service), it is required that the acting appointment be provided in writing by the Chief Executive Officer or the substantive strategic executive of the relevant department. In this case, due to both positions being occupied by Ms Comalie, and keeping in mind that the acting position in question reports to the Chief Executive Officer, the memorandum signatory page made provision for the required signatures and was executed accordingly with a recommendation and directive received from the City's Human Capital and Corporate Services department. The process followed was therefore in compliance with council policies and practices.

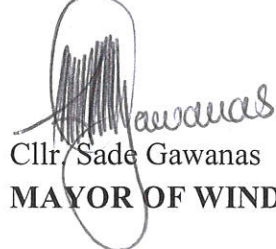
The suggestive interpretation of the social media post and the fact that it had been shared with no consideration of the full context and subject matter is unfortunate. The City of Windhoek remains committed to good corporate governance principles to which the acting Chief Executive Officer subscribes and executes in the duties of her office.

It is with great disappointment to learn that Dr Amupanda could post on social media the approval by Ms Comalie without him doing any due diligence and at the same time trying to tarnish the image, reputation, and integrity of the City of Windhoek and that of Ms. Comalie, in particular.

The actions and intentions of Dr Amupanda are misleading and unfortunate, as the City has internal structures and processes in place where internal stakeholders can engage and nurture a mutually conducive working relationship.

END/

ISSUED BY:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Sade Gawanas', is written over a circular stamp. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Cllr Sade Gawanas

MAYOR OF WINDHOEK

For more information about this statement, please contact our Corporate Communication Section at Tel.: 061 290 2365/3081/3648/2044, or email:

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