



Republic of Namibia

Press Statement by

Dr. Malan Lindeque

Chairperson of the Sustainable Development Advisory Council

At the launch of

The Namibia Sustainable Development Awards Programme

15.00, EIF BOARDROOM, 16th SEPTEMBER 2014

WINDHOEK

Members of the Media,

I am delighted to be with you here today for the launch of Namibia's first ever Sustainable Development Awards Programme. This is another important landmark as Namibia moves towards a more sustainable future.

The accepted definition of sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without limiting the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

This is a very much abstract definition and it is up to us as Namibians to interpret it to our circumstances and to give it effect for the betterment of our economy, society and environment.

At the heart of sustainable development is the need to conserve the environment and the integration of environmental protection into how we develop as a nation. This applies to all sectors of the economy and industry as well as to you and I as individuals – how we consume scarce resources such as electricity and water, how we choose to travel and communicate, how we raise and bring up our children amongst others.

The Sustainable Development Advisory Council, inaugurated in January 2013 in line with Article 6 of the Environmental Management Act of 2007, recognizes this wide-ranging scope and has an important role to play in promoting improved co-operation and coordination on environmental issues.

This Awards Programme fits directly to this mandate and the awards on offer seek to reach out to all sectors of society including industry; community-based organizations; scientists and researchers; outstanding leaders; as well as education and communication practitioners.

I am confident that this Awards Programme will raise awareness of the importance of sustainable development among all Namibians, recognize and reward the outstanding contributions of organizations and individuals active in this field, and serve as an inspiration for those of us aspiring to contribute to the sustainable development of the nation.

Lastly I would like to use this platform to publicly thank the Environmental Investment Fund for their support to this initiative, and for the generous prize money on offer. We look forward to receiving your outstanding nominations and to this Awards Programme becoming an annual feature on the Namibian calendar.

I thank you!