



Remarks by: Mr. Ali Ipinge,
Chief Executive Officer of the Road Fund
Administration (RFA), at the occasion marking the
Official Handover of RFA/RA Sponsored Solar
Water Pumps.

Date: Wednesday, 14 October 2020
Okauwa Borehole, Opuwo, Kunene Region
10h00

DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES

**HON ANNA SHIWEDA, MP AND DEPUTY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE,
WATER AND LAND REFORM**

HON. MARIUS SHEYA, GOVERNOR OF KUNENE REGION

MR. OSCAR MULONDA, DEPUTY DIRECTOR: RURAL WATER SUPPLY

**MS. MADELEINE GOAGOSES, REPRESENTATIVE OF MR. CONRAD LUTOMBI,
CEO OF RA**

DIRECTORATE (NORTH-WEST REGION)

LEADERSHIP OF TRADITIONAL AUTHORITIES

COMMUNITY OF OKAUWA

THE CONTRACTOR, NAMIBIA ENGINEERING CORPORATION

MANAGEMENT AND STAFF OF RFA

INVITED GUEST

MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

GOOD MORNING,

It gives me great pleasure to be here in Okauwa, Kunene Region, for this special occasion, marking the handover of the solar water pumps.

The Road Fund Administration (RFA) and the Roads Authority (RA) jointly took up its social responsibility and responded to the call for contributions towards the National Drought Emergency declared by His Excellency the President of the Republic of Namibia on 27 March 2019.

The two institutions jointly committed N\$ 12 million, from which N\$8 million was availed for the turnkey installation of 41 boreholes across 10 regions of the country, with the Ombuu being amongst the boreholes that have been rehabilitated. The decision was in the interest of lasting benefit to the communities beyond the current drought relief.

Let me use this opportunity express my gratitude to the RA for this joint initiative.

As a responsible corporate citizen the RFA is committed to support governments call for support towards social upliftment. We particularly recognise the importance of water as a basic need for human consumption, agriculture and industry.

One of the areas identified by the Emergency Management Unit (EMU) of the office of the Prime Minister is water supply. The Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform through the drought relief programme drilled boreholes for rural water supply, however needed to install equipment to ensure water supply.

The water points which benefited from the donation were identified and prioritised by the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reforms as part of the EMU initiatives.

I am pleased to announce that 4 boreholes were rehabilitated within the Kunene Region.

The RFA would further like to applaud and recognise the efforts of the Okauwa community, who took it upon themselves and build an elephant protection structure as witness here today. This demonstrates ownership and the communities' commitment towards caring for the infrastructure.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the Road Fund Administration's mandate is to fund road maintenance, but today we are here as a corporate citizen investing into water infrastructure to ensure access to potable water and in so doing assist the government in the drought relief efforts.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Water is Life, thus in conclusion, I leave you with this African proverb that states that:

“When you return to an old watering well there will be more than just water; as friends and dreams will also be there to meet you.”

With these few words, I thank you.

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