



Road Fund Administration (RFA) Annual Stakeholder Consultation on its Business Plan for the Period 2018/2019-2022/2023

RFA CEO - Mr Ali Ipinge

**Remarks at the 2017 Annual Business Plan Stakeholders Consultative
Workshop**

Date: Tuesday, 14 November 2017

Venue: Safari Court Hotel, Windhoek, Namibia

Board of Directors: Mr P. Ithindi (Chairperson), Dr. S. Amunkete, Ms Z. Stellmacher, Mr. R. Amadhila, Ms N. Henok, Mr. A. Ipinge CEO (Ex Officio)

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The principles of **economic efficiency** (optimal use of resources with minimal wastage), **safety** (from the perspective of safe road design, construction and/or maintenance), **equity** (fair and justified distribution of scarce resources: the how) and **transparency** (where and why resources are allocated); are well enshrined in the RFA Act and provide the fundamentals on how the RFA goes about its day-to-day business.

These principles are there to ensure that the monies contributed by the road users through the various instruments of the RUCS, are utilised for their intended purposes; and provide direct benefits and “value for money” to the road users.

To realise the “value-for-money” principle, the RFA during the current financial year, commenced with a Technical Assistance program to Local Authorities and Regional Councils. I am pleased to state that this concept is an outcome of prior RFA business plan stakeholder sessions. Another testimony that the recommendations from you as stakeholders are not falling on deaf ears.

The development of transport infrastructure has been prioritized in all NDP's and in NDP 4, our government took it a bit further with the ambitious aim of making Namibia a logistics and distribution hub within SADC.

We are proud to have been part of the progress that has been made on our national roads and are confident that we will achieve the goals set out in the Harambee Prosperity Plan and the new NDP 5.

The collection of sufficient or optimum funding has been a challenge and will continue to be so in the foreseeable future resulting in the backlog of maintenance of the national road network. This is a critical aspect that the sector should discuss and address, with a view to meet the targets of NDP5 and HPP.

However, the RFA remains committed to fund the economically warranted programmes and projects of the Roads Authority and other Approved Authorities.

In order to put the whole picture into perspective and for your appreciation, I would like to mention few outcomes/results of the past financial year (however, more will be elaborated by my chairperson):

In order to ensure proper budgeting, project planning and optimal utilisation of the allocated funds, the RFA is in a process to put into effect and sign Procedures Manuals with each Approved Authority and Regional Councils. It is envisaged to complete this process by the end of March 2018.

At this juncture, ladies and gentlemen,

Allow me to inform you that, we are launching the RFA **Fraud Prevention Hotline**, in partnership with Deloitte. Details of the Hotline will be provided later in the programme.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Road Fund, the Executive Management and Staff, let me officially welcome you all to this annual event and look forward to fruitful, interactive and participatory deliberations as we plan ahead to have better and safer roads in Namibia.

I thank you for your attention.