



# The Association for Local Authorities in Namibia

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## MISSION REPORT

### MEETING WITH THE SALGA NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE ON THE PARTNERSHIP WITH //KARAS REGIONAL COUNCIL

#### 1. Introduction

The //Karas Region Council of the Republic of Namibia and the Northern Cape Provincial Government of the Republic of South Africa entered into partnership (twinning agreement) since September 14, 1999. The assumption was that the twinning agreement would lay the foundation for cooperation which would transform into development.

The twinning agreements between the Northern Cape Provincial government and the //Karas Regional Council in Namibia has been reaffirm in October 2015 in Lüderitz by both political principles

For the implementation of the partnership/twinning agreement the two regions established various committee such as the Political Steering Committee and a technical steering Committee at both regions and also joint meetings in order to engage and take joint decision.

As part of the broader agreement both the Departments of Basic Education and Sports, Arts & Culture in the Northern Cape Province and the Directorate of Education, Arts & Culture are playing a critical role in realising the objective of the twinning Agreement. Review meetings are held on a quarterly basis where action plans were developed in the divisions, namely Education, School Sports, Arts & Culture

#### 2. Meeting with SALGA Northern Cape Provincial & ALAN Delegation.

Under the partnership local authorities are participation and Keetmanshoop municipality is part of the agreement, represented by Hon. Gabriel Freyer – Chairperson of the Management Committee of Keetmanshoop, who is also the Vice – President of ALAN. During the Joint Political meeting held on July 19, 2017 in Kimberly discussions was held on SALGA Northern Cape Province and //Karas Regional Council entering into partnership which should also be scaled down to the Local Authorities in the respective Regions.

The proposed strategic objective and Areas of Cooperation between the local authorities will aimed at;

- Real socio – economic interaction;
- Promote good relations between the local authorities
- Create opportunities for the extension of mutual understanding, visits, co – operation and contact;
- Exchange of knowledge and information concerning various municipal activities and;
- Should benefit the community as well as the municipality, through investment promotion, good governance, public participation, policy making & implementation, infrastructure development, revenue enhancement, management of informal settlements & Housing

The meeting noted although progress through the social stream (education, Arts and Culture) has been made challenges are being experience local government stream, due to the absence of a dedicated ring fence budget towards the twinning programmes and postponement of planned activities due to other equally important national priorities. It was further noted that SALGA Northern Cape has been struggling to obtain commitment from the //Karas Regional Council due to the fact that //Karas Regional Council does not have jurisdiction over local Authorities to carry out the activities outlined in the partnership agreements. Thus the objective of the meeting was aimed at engaging ALAN to lobby for the participation of the local authorities under the partnership agreement.



