



WELCOMING REMARKS

BY

MS. EMILIA NDINELAO MKUSA  
SECRETARY TO THE NATIONAL COUNCIL

AT THE

2018 SOCATT AFRICA REGION  
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR

**Theme**

*Capacitating Parliaments towards realizing Agenda 2063:  
The role of Parliaments in the age of knowledge based economy*

2 JULY 2018

SAFARI HOTEL, WINDHOEK

**Director of Ceremonies, Ms. Juliet Mupurua,**

**Honourable Margaret Mensah-Williams, Chairperson of the National Council**

**Hon. Peter Katjavivi, Speaker of the National Assembly**

**Honourable Gotthard Kasuto, Chairperson of the CPA Namibia Branch**

**Members of Parliament,**

**Advocate Eric Phindela, Chairperson of SoCATT,**

**Members of the SoCATT Steering Committee**

**Clerks and Secretaries of Parliaments,**

**Esteemed Presenters and Panellists**

**Distinguished invited Guests,**

**Staff of Parliaments**

**Ladies and Gentlemen**

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all first to Namibia and second, to the 3<sup>rd</sup> SoCATT Professional Development Seminar.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the SoCATT Steering Committee for bringing this very important seminar to Windhoek and by extension to Namibia. This is an excellent opportunity for us, Clerks and staff of Parliaments of the Commonwealth nations of the African Continent, to sit together and exchange opinions under a common agenda. We are gathered here to focus on issues and challenges associated with improving the capacity of parliaments.

As the host, we are humbled to have you here and trust that you will find the programme useful and enjoy the activities lined up for you. I

am particularly honoured that many of you were able to come, exceptions notwithstanding.

Honourable Members,  
Colleagues,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Due to the overwhelming flow of information, the work of parliaments becomes more complex. We stand at the brink of a technological revolution that will primarily alter the way we do things. The Fourth Industrial Revolution is thus signalling a new world order. I am sure the seminar will help in capacity building and provide a window for the staff of parliament to carry out their work in a better manner.

We are deeply honoured to have, in our midst, a multi-disciplinary team of presenters and panellists. I am thus looking forward for an enlightening and purposeful deliberations.

Let us know what more we can do to make your stay with us a memorable one. We are honoured by your presence and feel at home. I welcome you all once again

I thank you