

**WELCOME REMARKS BY MAYOR PHANGWA ON THE OCASSION OF HANDING OVER OF MT. FRERE WASTE BUY BACK PILOT PROJECT ON 29 SEPTEMBER 2011.**

Programme Director

The Swedish Delegation

Executive Mayor

Councillors

Management

Ladies & Gentlemen

It is with a sense of humility that I want to take this opportunity of making a few welcome remarks to this important occasion in the history of our municipality.

First and foremost I would like to thank the Alfred Nzo District Municipality for initiating a Twinning Agreement with the OSTERUNDS KOMMUN (Municipality) of Sweden.

Now as an integral part of the Alfred Nzo District Municipality we are benefiting in the spin offs from this relationship and co-operation between the OSTERUNDS KOMMUN and our District Municipality.

Our relationship and comradeship with the Swedish people in particular and Scandinavian people in general can be traced as far back as the years of struggle against apartheid.

All the countries of Scandinavia were supportive of us during those years of difficulty.

Many community projects at grassroot level were funded by Scandinavian countries like Sweden, Denmark, Finland and Norway.

Today, because of the partnership formed by our District Municipality we are where we are.

We are very thankful to the OSTERSTUND KUMMON / Municipality for your financial contribution towards Waste Management.

I want to assure you that your funds are in safe hands and will never be redirected for other purposes.

Your funds are being used for the intended purposes and nothing else.

In this regard, we have spent R208 000.00 for construction of the structure for the recycling of the waste.

In taking the project further, we have established three co-operatives with a total of 19 people to run this project.

In addition my Municipality has set aside and spent R15 000.00 for protective clothing for the members of the co-operatives.

We had to do this because the labour laws of this country prescribe that we must always strive to protect the employees wherever they are. In fact it is legal requirement of which compliance can not be avoided.

So, the OSTERSTUND funding has made it possible for us today to say we are handing over this structure and shelter at the land in fill site, the one we have just visited this morning.

Once more, I want to stress that it is our wish that the partnership and twining agreement between the OSTERUNDS Municipality of Sweden and the Alfred Nzo District Municipality of South Africa may grow from strength to strength for many years to come.

We are building on the partnership forged between SALA and SALGA with a view to enhance the 1997 Agreement on Local Democracy and Governance which is driven by SALA and other countries.

As a consequence of this agreement the following Areas of Cooperation are being embarked upon:

- **Environmental Management**
- **Infrastructure Development**
- **Job Shadowing and**
- **Local Economic Development**

It is through initiatives of this nature that we will deliver our people out of the poverty trap.

These efforts will enhance our plans to improve the environmental management.

Towards concluding and on a said note, it is with sadness that we have learnt of the untimely death of Mrs Nzo who is the spouse of the late Alfred Nzo, after whom the District Municipality is named.

The memorial service for the late Mrs Regina Nzo will be held tomorrow the 30 September at Alfred Nzo District Municipality at 14h00 and the funeral will be at Avolon Cemetery in Johannesburg on the 01 October 2011.

May her soul rest in peace.

With those few words you are all welcome.

I thank you very much!!