



REHOBOTH BASTER GEMEENTE

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18 March 2013

THE MINISTER REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Hon Minister

Re: Conducting a community meeting at ``Die Kaptein Hermanus van Wyk Gedenksaal``

It is with great disappointment that my authority has to address this letter to you at dawn of our twenty-third independence anniversary. Hon Jerry Ekandjo, during a meeting conducting with the Captains Council on 17 August 2009, and in the presence of the Hon. Theo Diergaardt and the former Mayor of Rehoboth, Mr. George Dax, instructed the Rehoboth Town Council to allow me free usage of ``Die Kaptein Hermanus van Wyk Gedenksaal`` when so requested.

My authority on 12 March 2013 approached the Rehoboth Town Council in order to conduct a community meeting at the above-mentioned venue on Sunday, March 24, 2013. The aim of the meeting is to brief the community on the discussions held with the Hon Minister Naruseb on 11th March 2013, regarding the ``New Deeds Bill``. At the time of my booking, no booking was entered in the register by any other organization or individual for the mentioned date and time. I was however informed by the Chief Executive Officer of Rehoboth Town Council that my request to use the venue was unsuccessful.

I met with my Council and it was resolved to seek your intervention urgently. I would like to state clearly Hon. Minister, that the actions of Mr. Jankowski are not appreciated. He at several times before insulted me and the traditional laws of the Rehoboth Basters. It is officials like Mr. Jankowski that makes it impossible for us to trust actions of the Namibian Government. I would like to point out that the action of the CEO is a serious violation of article eight and other articles of the UN Declaration on The Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The mentioned property is an historical and traditional asset of the Basters, that was ``expropriated`` without consultation and just compensation. By denying me the right to use our own Monument to address my community is a huge insult. My people view the disrespectful behaviour of officials like the CEO in a very serious light and their patients are stretch to the limits.

Hon Minister, my people is bound to respect the laws of this country, and expects that others should do the same. It is for this reason only that we in the past approached the RTC to make use of our facility for community meetings. Allow me to address my people in ``Die Kaptein Hermanus van Wyk Gedenksaal`` that right-fully belongs to them.

We need to have an answer by Wednesday 20/03/13 not later than 10:00, because we will be having a meeting at 16h00, as my authority needs to do some advertising and to attend to other issues regarding the meeting.

Please contact the writer of this letter for any questions you may have.

Regards

John C.A McNab

Kaptein: Rehoboth Baster Gemeente

Cc: Hon. Alfeus Naruseb

Cc: Hon Theo Diergaard

Cc: Hon. Katrina Hanse-Himarwa