



Welcome Address by Councillor Ntandoyenkosi Khuzwayo on the Occasion of the Bio-Africa Welcome Reception on 28 August 2018 at the Ushaka Marine World, Durban.

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Programme Director

The Bio-Africa Organising Committee

The Swiss Biotech Association

The South African Department of Health Science and Technology

The Department of Trade and Industry-South Africa

IPASA –The Innovative Pharmaceutical Association of South Africa

Bio-Safety –South Africa

The Association of Biotechnology LED Enterprise

Other distinguished partners

Dr Jaleh Daie, Distinguished Speakers, Academics, Researchers, Captains of various Industries

Ladies and Gentlemen

All protocols observed.

Good evening.

On behalf Her Worship the Mayor of eThekweni, Councillor Zandile Gumede, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you, to this evening's program.

I wish to also extend warm greetings to our overseas guests to South Africa, and a hearty welcome to all delegates to the Greenest city in South Africa.

Program Director, once again, the eThekweni Municipality has been named, the greenest Municipality in South Africa.

The City has been evaluated considering amongst other factors, including waste management, energy efficiency, conservation, water management, landscaping, tree planting and beautification, public participating and community empowerment, leadership and institutional arrangements presentation.

Ladies and gentlemen, Durban prioritises sustainability, and building a resilient city. We therefore, in keeping with the city's vision and sustainable development objectives, have had no second thoughts about partnering with Bio-Africa, to host this convention of great importance and relevance. The

Municipality shares many objectives with the Bio-Africa Convention such as :

- capitalizing on transitions and the role of Innovation for inclusive growth.
- Integrating the City and our African counterparts into the Global Biotech Ecosystem
- Mainstreaming Indigenous Knowledge Systems: Transforming Indigenous Knowledge Systems into Inclusive Businesses.
- Determining and breaking down barriers, to Biotech for Food Security in the country, and the continent.
- Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships for Sustainable Agriculture & Intensification & Rural Economic Growth
- Assessing the City's and the continents readiness for Big Data Management in Biotech Research, which will assist us in a holistic way, in determining capabilities across all other disciplines.

These are but only a few of the city's shared objectives, with this elaborately packaged and intense Bio-Africa Convention.

Therefore I fully trust, with the collective and expert knowledge of all delegates' and their contribution to this event, the last few days, and for what remains of this convention, Africa, South Africa, and Durban, would have benefited quiet immensely, towards our inclusive growth and sustainable development goals.

I thank each of you for your input and as I welcome you this evening, please do take the time to explore the offerings of Durban, a city that continues to win international awards, for the value it offers in entertainment, and for a host of other activities.

Thank you.