



**Address by Her Worship, the Mayor Cllr Zandile Gumede
on the Occasion of the International Islamic Relief
Organisation of Southern Africa Honourary Dinner**

**05 October 2016 – 18h00
Coastlands Hotel on the Ridge**

- Programme Director, Tabisa Bodoza,
- Her Worship, the Deputy Mayor Cllr Fawzia Peer,
- Regional Director of the International Islamic Relief Organisation of Southern Africa, Sheikh Walid El Saadi,
- Deputy Regional Director of the Organisation, Molouna Moosa Mkhize,
- Business representatives,
- Representatives other organisations,
- Speakers in different topics,
- Stakeholders and partners,
- Distinguished guests and dignitaries,
- Ladies and gentlemen,
- All protocol observed,

Good evening!

Ladies and gentlemen, I honour this occasion with a meaningful quote by our first democratic President the late Dr Nelson Mandela.

Open quote:

"There can be no greater gift than that of giving one's time and energy to help others without expecting anything in return."

Close quote.

It is true that blessed is the hand that gives than the one that receives. The International Islamic Relief Organisation of Southern Africa has helped communities in distress for many years and has not expected anything in return. Your work has not gone unnoticed. It is recognised for the good work that is done to better the lives of our people.

Ladies and gentlemen, before I continue I would like to thank IIROSA for hosting this honorary dinner for us. As the new eThekweni leadership, we appreciate this gesture because it indicates to us that this non-profit organisation wants to work with government towards transforming our communities.

So tonight, we strengthen the existing partnership. We also appeal to other organisations and businesspeople present here tonight to join hands with our Municipality.

Programme Director, tonight we reaffirm our relations to work together to serve our people. The Islamic religion promotes giving and kindness. It is visible through the work that IIROSA was established on good principles. These principles are in line with eThekweni's vision of becoming Africa's most care and liveable City by 2030.

Ladies and gentlemen, our Municipality provides assistance to civil society organisations that seek support for initiating and sustaining socio-economic, cultural and sporting development programmes, especially from previously disadvantaged communities.

This is done through the grant-in-aid programme and is part of the Municipality's Integrated Development Plan and social investment.

Our Municipality cares about all residents and works closely with non-profit organisations to ensure that the poorest communities are reached and given the help they require.

So ladies and gentlemen, government cannot work alone to address all the challenges that face us. In this regard, we look forward to working with IIROSA during our five years in office. From this honorary dinner, we hope to form partnerships and strengthen existing ones.

Thank you!