



**Address by Her Worship, Deputy Mayor Cllr Fawzia Peer
on the Occasion of the Launch of the Innovative
Recycling Station at uShaka Marine World**

**16 September 2016 – 09h00
UShaka Marine - Seal Stadium**

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- Programme Directors,
 - Representatives from the South African Association for Marine Biological Research,
 - Representatives from UShaka Marine,
 - Students,
 - Municipal officials,
 - Speakers in different topics,
 - Stakeholders and partners,
 - Distinguished guests and dignitaries,
 - Ladies and gentlemen,
 - All protocol observed,

Good morning ladies and gentlemen!

It is good to see so many young people that are interested in marine life. This facility, uShaka Marine World, is no doubt a world class facility and maintained very well so that the marine life, are kept in clean and unpolluted environments.

However, the harsh reality of the state of our oceans is different from the facility that we are seeing today. There is a lot of rubbish in the ocean, which include plastics and other material that could have been recycled.

Pollution has a negative effect on the health of our oceans and the well-being of all marine animals – which then has an impact on our fish stock which is a source of food.

Where did the rubbish come from you may ask. From us, we are the producers of rubbish. When we litter, it gets washed into rivers during rains and ends up in the ocean. That litter also clogs our drainage systems which results in flooding damage to property and even loss of life. We can prevent these things from happening by disposing our rubbish correctly.

This recycling station that we are launching today has a bin for plastics and a separate one for cardboard. This means that you drink your cool drink and eat your lunch, throw the empty bottle and cardboard into the appropriate bin. These plastics and cardboard then goes to a facility where it is processed and the plastics are recycled to make other goods – instead of being washed into rivers and oceans.

Even if there are no dedicated recycling facilities, through your litter into a normal bin, this litter will end up in a municipal managed landfill. If there is no bin, keep your litter with you until you can throw it away into a bin.

The City is focusing on creating awareness with officials and the public about the benefits of recycling to reduce energy consumption and to adopt the culture of re-cycling in their homes.

Last year, the opportunity arose for the eThekweni Energy Office and uShaka Sea World to work together on a project aimed at the thousands of families and school learners visiting the park to make recycling a fun activity. The recycling station is voice activated. Every time you drop something in one of the bins, you will get feedback in a form of a voice message.

In line with today's occasion is the Clean and Maintain My City Campaign. This Campaign is a call to action for all citizens of eThekweni to reclaim our streets, public spaces and the environment that we live in. It is a journey that fits in well with the City's vision of being Africa's most caring and liveable City by 2030.

The Clean and Maintain my City Campaign was launched in 2014, after witnessing the bad conditions of some parts of the City. When this Campaign was initiated a greater community involvement was identified for it to become effective and successful just like today's initiative.

EThewkini has recognised the challenges that climate change pose to our citizens. We are actively committed to alleviating climate change through recycling.

I would like to encourage students to make use of the recycling stations.

Do not litter!

Take care of our environment!

Reduce, reuse, recycle!

Thank you!