



BLANTYRE CITY COUNCIL

SPEECH

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR, COUNCILLOR WILD NDIPO

AT

THE WELCOMING OF QUELIMANE DELEGATION

ON

29 JANUARY 2018

- Director of Ceremonies;
- Dr Manuel Araujo, Mayor of Quelimane Municipality;
- Mr Listano Varela, Deputy President of Municipality Assembly and all visiting councillors;
- Mr Joseph Makwinja, Deputy Mayor and all Councillors here present;
- Leader of delegation for the business persons;
- Dr Alfred Chanza, Chief Executive Officer for Blantyre City Council and your management team;
- Members of delegation from Quelimane;
- All invited guests,
- Members of the media;
- Ladies and gentlemen

Good morning!

On behalf of the people of the beautiful City of Blantyre, I wish to welcome you our brothers and sisters from the great City of Quelimane in Zambezia Province.

Blantyre City is proud to host you our important guests and look forward to our discussion as we enhance our sister relationship.

More importantly, we are overwhelmed by the coming of a high powered contingent of business people that have accompanied you my brother Lord Mayor Araujo.

As we grow this Sister City relationship, the entrepreneurs from both cities will be exploring trade and investment opportunities.

We thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to lead this high-powered delegation to the City of Blantyre and let me assure you that your historical four day visit will be memorable.

My brother Lord Mayor, Ladies and gentlemen, your coming gives me a strong spirit of optimism that this journey we have renewed will be of great value to both cities.

Last year will go down in the history of our two cities as the year we committed ourselves to this relationship when you welcomed a delegation from Blantyre City Council led by the Deputy Mayor.

The Deputy Mayor still talks about the warmth and hospitality of the people of Quelimane Municipality, the love you showed them and the productive interaction that took place.

As if that was not enough, you also extended an invitation to me and the Chief Executive Officer to participate in the 75th anniversary of your City.

We were extremely pleased with your welcome and you made sure that our stay was very comfortable. We were also accompanied by our local football team which was also accorded overwhelming support.

My brother, we can only say thank you although words fail us. It is just our hope you and the entire delegation will have a wonderful experience in Blantyre City.

On behalf of Blantyre City Council, I want to take this opportunity to reiterate our commitment to strengthening socio-economic relations between the two cities.

A partnership between Blantyre and Quelimane will make a great contribution to that prosperous future of our peoples.

As leaders, we have to commit to creating exchange programmes focusing on skills development and transfer of skills.

We see a future where, as a result of being skilled, in a wide variety of fields, young people will become entrepreneurs of note, competing with the best.

We are confident that your visit to our city with business people will make it possible for us to usher in a new era of economic growth, enhanced development and shared value.

We are confident that the business people from our two cities will form partnerships that will drive investments.

We want to create robust arrangements so that the friendship is mutually beneficial.

I have no doubt, that the strategic partnership between the cities of Blantyre and Quelimane will strengthen even the good relationship that already exists between the governments of Malawi and Mozambique.

Today we celebrate strong relations between Malawi and Mozambique through your visit to our City.

Once again, feel welcome, feel at home and enjoy your stay in Blantyre City. You have been granted freedom of the City.

Thank you