STATEMENT BY THE TOWN COUNCIL DIRECTOR

In this current financial year 2017/18; Njombe Town Council has collected a total of 18,448,814,431.62Tshs from its various sources and spent 11,977,864,587.98 Tshs. which is equivalent to 65% of the total collection as at *December* 2017. Specifically, the council has received 476,439,555 (55%) Tshs for other charges (OC) and 9,105,755, 151.52 (40%) for personnel emolument grants. Similarly, to date the council has received 6,947,032,675.72 Tshs equivalent to 106% of the total approved budget for development grants while a total of 1,201,795,000.33 (50%) have been collected from the council's own sources' proper (300,529,574.43 Tshs for *development projects*; 18,918,602.00 for *PE* and 808,188,765.32 for *recurrent* expenditures). During the same period the council has also received a total of 510,851,000 Tshs out of budget from Global fund and CANADIAN Gvt for Ihalula HC). Either the current collected Community contribution reaches a total of 249,941,049.05 which is 74% of the estimated. The delayed remittances of LGDG has been a major challenge as it spread much on many sector projects which are directly linked to services provision. Similarly; Being Uncertain on whether it will be remitted also affects project planning as to whether projects planned in the current year should get funding or not,. Should they be repeated in the next year?

This Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) for 2018/19 to 2020/21 has been prepared using the improved PlanRep system which links with other software systems used by the councils. The plan envisages to work on the key issues identified in every sector with emphasis on adhered to the cash budget so as to avoid creation of debts. For the coming financial year 2018/2019, Njombe Town Council plans to spend a total of 30,819,670,624 Tshs for Recurrent and Development activities. This includes 27,342,039,500Tshs from block grants while a council's own source and community contribution is 3,477,631,124 Tshs. specifically; The Government block grants' expenditure estimates composition includes 21,672,095,000 Tshs for Personnel Emoluments (PE); 858,521,000 Tshs for other charges (OC); and 4,508,416,803 Tshs for development projects (1,680,431,000Tshs - Local and 3,130,992,500 Tshs - Foreign). The council; from its own sources (proper), plans to spend 1,225,672,450 Tshs for development projects (40%) while the remaining 1,838,508,674Tshs (60%) will be spent for recurrent activities (OCs and PEs). The community is estimated to contribute 413,450,000 Tshs the amount which will add on the councils' own source collection (CHF; User fees; NHIF and other sources). The council also submit a separate request for strategic project funding with a total sum of 501,394,375 so as to invest on a potato pack and marketing centre project.

The focus/priority of the council is converged on completion of on-going/uncompleted projects in health, water and education sectors, supporting women and youth groups, cross-cutting issues and other national and council's priority sector projects. The management fully commits itself to take thorough measures to ensure adherence to the financial expenditures norms, procedures and regulations so as to ensure the projects and programs are executed according to the planned targets while strengthening collaboration with all development partners, stakeholders as well as the entire community in the Council. The council will guarantee conformity to the Local Government Authority Financial Memorandum, Local Government Finance Act No. 9 of 1982; The Budget act number 11 of 2015 and Procurement Act (2004) in the all process of executing this budget.

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(ILLUMINATA L. MWENDA)

DIRECTOR

NJOMBE TOWN COUNCIL