

2016 BALA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

30th August-2nd September

RESOLUTIONS

Preamble:

Recognising the critical role of Local Authorities as the closest arm of government to the people

Aware of the implementation role of local authorities in achieving Local Economic Development

Convinced that the achievement of Target 2030 goals is largely the responsibility of the Local Authorities

Cognizant of the major strides achieved economically, politically and socially in the fifty years of independence

Celebrating with gratitude the contributions and sacrifices made by the founding fathers and mothers of our Republic and

Fully determined to guarantee further advancement of our people into the future,

We therefore make the following resolutions:

1. Sufficient authority and responsibility should be given to local government as an extended arm of government to enable local economic development.
2. The local authorities should come up with innovations to lessen their dependence in central government.
3. There is need for enhanced accountability in local authorities through creation of institutions such as ombudsman for local authorities.
4. Local authorities should effectively take advantage of the powers they already have to facilitate local economic development.
5. The domestication of the SDGs must be cascaded to the local environment through local authorities in order for them to bear fruit.
6. There is need to document Botswana's success in LED for future reference.
7. BALA should embark on consultations with central government to facilitate financial independence of local authorities.
8. Local authorities should be given mandate/authority to own land within their areas of legal jurisdiction.

9. In recognition of Botswana's success in Local Governance, the appointment of the President of BALA Honourable Cllr Rev. Mpho Mmachakga Moruakgomo as President of Commonwealth Local Government Forum has been duly commended.