

## **President's Address by Robert Likhang FCG**

**AGM - 10 June 2020**

---

This year has been filled with a number of challenges and successes, which collectively have made us a better institute in providing the necessary support to our members.

The year to me has been a year where God-thankfully, I have achieved the dream of every chartered governance professional or chartered secretary, which is the rare opportunity of leading one's peers. I therefore thank fellow members for entrusting me with this important responsibility.

We have experienced a massive change in our curriculum, which provides a home not only for accountants and company secretaries but all other professionals within the broad sphere of governance. I believe this will make members of this institute more influential in business, the non-profit sector and the public sector. To this end there is a subject 'public sector governance,' which you will agree me, that given the increasing incidence of corruption in the public sector, good governance is needed now more than ever. I am picking on the public sector, because the idea for a new subject was home brewed in our division, and for that I am very proud.

We have continued to be one of the most active and the most resourceful divisions within The Chartered Governance Institute as the global organisation. We are also grateful for the role played by our very own Jill Parratt, as a member of the international council and the Vice President. We have also retained our membership and maintained our active role in the Corporate Secretaries International Association, wherein our very own Karyn Southgate is the President. We believe that Southern Africa is part of the globe, and our success is shared with the globe just as we share global challenges.

Talking of challenges, we regret the phenomenon of Covid 19 and its effect on human health and economic activity. However this very phenomenon has forced us to run into 4<sup>th</sup> industrial revolution much faster than we had planned. This is manifest today by the virtual meeting we have, which provides greater opportunity for many more to attend the AGM. The previous constraint of having to be present in Johannesburg limited us of the diversity of ideas from the larger membership. We are prepared to face this phenomenon, to overcome risks, and take advantage of opportunities it presents to us. To this end,

we are on the move to digitalize our systems including assessment, and increase online platforms.

The successes we have had are a joint effort, and I wish to thank all members who have provided extraordinary assistance in promoting our brand and thought leadership role. I thank particularly the Board of Directors who serve without being paid, the experts within and outside the Institute who have helped us to become better known, as well as our many sponsors who have contributed to our activities.

Fellow members, I must repeat that I thank you for the opportunity to serve the institute and wish the new leader, Karen Robinson, a successful year. Let us love and have passion for this wonderful organisation, so that it sees another century.

I call on Stephen Sadie, our CEO, to present the CEO's address.

I thank you for your attendance.