

CRAN SETS THE RECORD STRAIGHT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The response bears reference to the media conference hosted by Mobile Telecommunications Limited (MTC) on Wednesday, 03 February 2016. The Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia (CRAN) therefore without addressing all the matters raised by MTC responds as follows.

“CRAN received a license application for additional spectrum from Mobile Telecommunications Limited (MTC) on 16 April 2015. Several consultations were held and such application was published in the Government Gazette for public comments in October 2015 as per the provisions of the relevant legislative and regulatory provisions” said Festus K. Mbandeka, Chief Executive Officer, CRAN.

He further added that the application is still pending before CRAN and is within the legal timeframe for the consideration of applications as per CRAN’s regulatory processes. This was communicated to MTC in December 2015.

Mbandeka said “regulatory processes, and the notion of impartiality dictates that CRAN may not comment on applications that are pending before it until such time that the application is properly considered and a decision is made in terms of the relevant provisions of the Communications Act (No.8 of 2009)”. The final decision and the reasons for the decision will be published in the Government Gazette once made as per the legislative requirements.

Mbandeka says that all applicants and licensees are expected and encouraged to conduct business and make sound investment decisions that are in line with the requirements of the regulatory framework within which they operate.

“CRAN is cognisant of the fact that spectrum is a scarce national resource which is essential for the role out of ICT services, therefore it is imperative that it is administered in the most efficient and responsible manner and in the best interest of all Namibians” Mbandeka added.

CRAN prides itself as a dynamic regulator and will continue to independently regulate the ICT industry by creating a competitive and levelled playing field in order to increase access to telecommunications and advanced information services to all regions of Namibia in order to promote just, reasonable and affordable prices.

“Ends”

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