CRAN
Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia

OPENING STATEMENT

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INTRODUCTION TO THE 5G WORKSHOP

23 JUNE 2017

- **Esteemed industry stakeholders,**
- **Participants,**
- **CRAN colleagues,**
- **Ladies and gentlemen,**

Good morning. I am happy to see so many familiar faces here today. Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to attend this very exciting consultative Workshop.

It seemed like it was just yesterday, when everyone in the country was raving about the launch of LTE, also known as 4G. However, as you are all well aware, our industry's robust, fast-paced and dynamic environment is constantly evolving. Now the market can look forward to the introduction of 5G.

It is for this reason that CRAN, in conjunction with LS Telecom, have organised this workshop to give you insight into 5G technologies and its spectrum requirements. An overview of the current trials being conducted around the world for 5G will also be discussed, as well as the regulatory frameworks required to implement 5G technologies in the country.

Ladies and gentlemen

It is also imperative that we have this dialogue, as Namibia has been elected as the supporting country to South Africa in respect of the World Radio Conference (WRC-19) agenda points related to IMT services, which include 5G implementation. The preparatory process within SADC, has already commenced, thus we should use this workshop to craft strategies that will ensure the effective implementation of 5G in the country.

Ladies and gentlemen

5G achieves much higher data rates, lower latency and ubiquitous connectivity. It is also extremely reliable, near to universal coverage and its high speed mobile broadband can cost-effectively support growing traffic (such as videos) and better support low-power Internet of Things (IoT). As the demand for continuous connectivity grows, 5G will provides an opportunity to create an agile, purpose-build network tailored to the different needs of the country.

While previous generations of wireless networks were characterized by fixed radio parameters and spectrum blocks, 5G will allow the utilization of any spectrum and any access technology to delivery best telecommunication services. 5G will also feature native support for new kinds of network deployments, including ultra-dense radio networking with self-backhauling, device-to-device communications, dynamic spectrum re-farming and radio access infrastructure sharing.

Ladies and gentlemen

The success of 5G is depended on the collaboration and innovation of all telecommunications industry players. Investment in 5G will, in the long haul, enable any mobile application and telecommunications service provider to connect to network at any time. Lastly, 5G promises to expand the possibilities of what mobile networks can do, and to extend upon what services they can deliver.

Ladies and gentlemen

Let me conclude by officially welcoming you to this workshop. I trust you will engage in fruitful discussion that will provide a solid foundation to the implementation of this ubiquitous technology.

With those few words said, I thank you and enjoy the workshop.