



CRAN

Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

FRIEDA KISHI

CHAIRPERSON: CRAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE

31 JULY 2017

- **CRAN Board of Directors and Management,**
- **CRAN colleagues,**
- **Esteemed ICT stakeholders,**
- **MICT Representatives,**
- **Invited guests,**
- **Members of the media,**
- **Ladies and gentlemen,**

Good afternoon! Thank you for accepting our invitation to this auspicious event. This intervention is a first of its kind for CRAN. We understand that regulatory decisions and interventions have an impact on the business operations of licensed entities and other key stakeholders. This necessitated the need for us to engage you in the life cycle of formulating regulatory interventions and the subsequent implementation, monitoring and compliance thereof.

Ladies and gentlemen

It is common cause that the ICT sector is technologically driven, which results in frequent changes in market conditions that require regulatory interventions to ensure a level playing field amongst operators. CRAN is thus faced with the challenge of balancing the economic and social considerations within the regulatory framework and to ensure that the market is responsive to these technological initiatives.

CRAN is also cognizant of the fact that the presence of a stable and credible regulatory environment is pivotal not only from an investment perspective but, also for the efficient and effective operation of licensed entities and to the ultimate benefit of the consumer.

Ladies and gentlemen

Having considered the above reflections, CRAN identified the need to have a stakeholder's engagement initiative on the regulatory framework, based on the following objectives:

- To give stakeholders an overview of the proposed regulatory interventions that CRAN intends to roll out in the next 6 - 24 months;
- To give stakeholders an overview of some of the guidelines on the interpretation and implementation of regulatory interventions that have already been implemented;
- To engage stakeholders so that we can understand your concerns, values, and interests, and collaboratively develop solutions;
- To acquaint stakeholders with our internal regulatory processes, priorities and challenges;
- To ensure that stakeholders have a better understanding of how decisions are made by CRAN and the reasons for such decisions; and
- To improve our relationship with stakeholders.

This platform will also address policy and legislative gaps within the regulatory framework, which require CRAN's intervention, but also necessitate the input of stakeholders to avoid confusion and frustration about how they can access and influence the decision-making process.

Ladies and gentlemen

Finally, CRAN is mandated to purposefully regulate the ICT industry, but it can only do that with your support and assistance, thus I implore you to fully participate in the deliberations that will take place today. I look forward to seeing you at similar future interventions.

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