

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Namibia Joins Global Leaders at WTSA-24 to Shape the Future of ICT Standards**

**15 October 2024**

**New Delhi, India** - The Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia (CRAN) is proud to represent Namibia at the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) World Telecommunication Standardisation Assembly (WTSA-24), that started from 14 October 2024 and will conclude on 24 October 2024 in New Delhi, India. This global event brings together policymakers, industry leaders, and ICT experts from around the world to discuss and develop international standards that will drive innovation, support industry growth, and foster trust in emerging technologies.

#### **Why Namibia is Attending WTSA-24**

Namibia's participation in WTSA-24 underscores its commitment to the global agenda of developing meaningful technical standards. Since CRAN's inception, Namibia has actively contributed to international standardisation efforts that shape the future of the ICT sector. By engaging in these discussions, Namibia aims to align with global best practices and explore standards that will enhance our digital infrastructure, drive economic growth, and support technological advancement.

#### **Our Contribution to the WTSA-24 Discussions**

CRAN's delegation will support the African agenda, focusing on collaboration to develop common standards. This participation is essential for Namibia, as it positions the country to influence standards that impact emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, quantum computing, and the metaverse. Moreover, it provides an opportunity to foster partnerships that

support our nation's ICT priorities, paving the way for sustainable development and digital inclusion.

### **The Importance of International ICT Standards**

Global standardisation is vital for building trust, ensuring interoperability, and reducing costs in the technology sector. Standards set by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) serve as a foundation for continuous innovation, enabling industries to evolve and new sectors to emerge. As Namibia aligns itself with these standards, it strengthens its ability to attract investment, enhance its digital services, and create a more resilient and competitive ICT landscape.

### **Key Highlights of WTSA-24**

WTSA-24 is more than just a conference; it's an opportunity for Namibia to engage with global leaders on topics that will shape the future of technology. Highlights include a high-level segment discussing digital transformation, sessions on artificial intelligence, and panels addressing the role of technology in sustainable development. Namibia's involvement not only showcases its dedication to the global ICT community but also brings valuable insights back home to benefit our industries and citizens.

"Namibia's active involvement in WTSA-24 reaffirms our commitment to contributing to the global ICT landscape," said Mrs. Florette Nakusera, CRAN Board Member and Head of Delegation. "By participating in these crucial discussions, we are ensuring that our country not only keeps pace with rapid technological advancements but also helps shape the standards that will drive digital transformation and economic growth in Africa and beyond."

### **About WTSA-24**

Organised every four years by the ITU, the United Nations agency for digital technologies, WTSA is the primary platform for deciding on the working methods for ITU-T for the next study period of setting standards that facilitate the growth of the global ICT sector. This year's assembly, taking place in Asia for the first time, will explore the latest advancements and define the strategic direction for ICT standards.

**ENDS**

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