

08 February 2017

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
ATTENTION NEWS EDITOR**

CIRCULATION OF “SEX TAPES” AND OTHER INDECENT OR OBSCENE MATERIAL VIA SOCIAL MEDIA

The Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia (CRAN), has noted with concern the use of telecommunications devices (*i.e. mobile phones, tablets, computers, laptops etc*) to create, distribute or circulate recordings (videos, images and sound clips) of an obscene, filthy or indecent nature, especially pornographic material on social media platforms.

THE PUBLIC IS HEREBY INFORMED THAT section 117 (1) (c) and (2) (b) of the Communications Act, (Act 8 of 2009) provides that *any person who by means of a telecommunications device knowingly makes, creates, or solicits; or initiates the transmission of, any comment, request, suggestion, proposal, image, or other communication which is obscene, lewd, lascivious, filthy, or indecent, with intent to annoy, abuse, threaten, or harass another person,* commits an offence.

FURTHER THAT any person found guilty of this offence is on conviction liable to imprisonment **for a period not exceeding five years or to a fine not exceeding N\$20 000 or to both such fine and such imprisonment.**

THE PUBLIC IS THEREFORE WARNED to refrain from creating pornographic videos or any other obscene or indecent content, initiating the transmission of such pornographic videos or soliciting comments in respect of such pornographic videos with the intention of threatening, annoying, abusing or harassing other people as it is a criminal offence punishable by law.

The Authority will prosecute any offenders in this regard.

Should the public have any further enquiries in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Emilia Nghikembua at Tel: 061 222 666 or via electronic mail to ENghikembua@cran.na

– Ends –

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Responsibilities of the Authority:

- *Ensure compliance with legislation and regulations;*
- *Grant, renew, amend, transfer, suspend and revoke licenses;*
- *Implement a transparent and fair pricing regime;*
- *Respond to consumer complaints;*
- *Protect consumers in respect of prices, quality, variety of services and user equipment supplied;*
- *Promote competition amongst service providers;*
- *Manage spectrum planning and allocation;*
- *Ensure telecommunications services are operated in a manner best suited to the economic and social development of Namibia;*
- *Establish procedures for ensuring safety and quality of services;*
- *Regulate interconnection;*
- *Facilitate the negotiation of rights of way;*
- *Manage numbering planning and allocation;*
- *Facilitate universal service, and Attract foreign direct investment.*