

**CRAN HOSTS CONSULTATIVE MEETING ON SPECTRUM ASSIGNMENT
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The Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia (CRAN) hosted a public consultative meeting on the Regulatory Framework and Spectrum Assignment Strategy on 05 June 2018 at the Namibia Institute of Public Administration and Management (NIPAM).

“CRAN deems it prudent to keep abreast of the latest trends and technology developments to ensure the efficient use of and regulation of spectrum in Namibia. The Authority therefore developed a spectrum assignment strategy that will set out objectives for spectrum management and provide clarity in respect of the Authority’s approach to efficiently control, plan, administer and license radio spectrum”, stated Festus K. Mbandeka, Chief Executive Officer.

Mbandeka added that Radio Frequency Spectrum is a limited national resource that is the backbone for the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector that offers communities and commercial entities with various communication offerings. It therefore requires prudent management and robust regulation to ensure equitable access and efficient utilisation to meet the communication needs of all stakeholders. Regulation and management of this scarce resource is achieved through a regulatory framework that is driven by the development and implementation of national strategic direction, legislation, regulations and procedures.

CRAN is responsible for facilitating and allocation and availability of spectrum so that it is an enabler for the socio-economic development and access to communications services and ICT infrastructure. The Spectrum Assignment Strategy promotes competition through minimisation of constraints on spectrum use within a service and technology neutral license regime and allows for similar services to be offered on different technological platforms.

CRAN will ensure the fair distribution of spectrum that in turn would provide services based on the requirements of the various category of service licences awarded. The Spectrum Regulatory Framework aims to provide stakeholders with equitable access to spectrum resources and ensure that a wide array of the latest technological services are made available to Namibian consumers. “The Authority developed a spectrum assignment strategy that charts the way for planning spectrum resources, determining spectrum fees and assigning spectrum to new and existing stakeholders”, concluded Mbandeka.

“ENDS”

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