

CRAN SIGNS MOU's WITH NUST AND UNAM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

12 SEPTEMBER 2017

The Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia (CRAN) signed two Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) with Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST) and with the University of Namibia (UNAM) in Windhoek on 03 August 2017 and 05 September 2017 respectively.

The MoU is focused on the cooperation and possibilities to explore the establishment of a regular internship programme for suitable NUST and UNAM students in any faculty, CRAN's attendance and participation at the Career Fairs and possible synergies concerning exchanges between CRAN and the universities' advisory boards on academic related matters.

The parties also agree to explore research and development initiatives for students undertaking action learning projects and/or mini thesis for research on topics related to Information and Communication Technology and would through this initiative have access to CRAN's data as per the provisions as set out in Section 27 of the Communications Act (No. 8 of 2009) on public availability of information. This will offer research opportunities for students to identify specific areas of research pertaining to bona fide industry needs.

Speaking at the NUST occasions, Festus K. Mbandeka, CEO CRAN said "The internship programme will enable students to apply theoretical knowledge gained from their course of study in a practical setting and gain practical experience relevant to their studies. The internship programme will also provide with an opportunity to explore career options or make informed decisions regarding their career development and increase their range of employability skills".

At the UNAM occasion, Mr. Mbandeka said "Students deserve the opportunity to be exposed to the industry and also to the practical exposure that CRAN as a regulator can offer. This will also give the students the best opportunity to make career choices once they are exposed to various aspects in the industry. CRAN ensures that this is an ongoing, sustainable and meaningful process".

CRAN has signed MoU's and entered into numerous smart partnership engagements with various institutions such as:

- **Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA): Which MoU is geared at** collaborating and advance common goals in the areas of data collection and analysis in telecommunications services and networks, broadcasting, postal and the allocation of radio spectrum;
- **National Commission on Research, Science and Technology (NCRST):** Whose MoU aims to identify roles and responsibilities in the planning of collaborative research and development, educational and training activities;
- **Ministry of Finance: Directorate of Customs and Excise:** Which sets out to promote cooperation and coordination on Type Approval of telecommunications equipment that enter the borders of the Republic of Namibia through the various entry points;
- **Bank of Namibia (BON):** This MoU establishes the manner in which the regulators will interact and cooperate with one another in respect of investigations, analysis and the handling of mobile network operators, money market and the envisaged national SIM registration process; and
- **Namibia Competition Commission (NACC):** This MoU facilitates cooperation and consultation in respect of competition matters in the ICT industry.

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Issued by CRAN:

Katrina Sikenj

Head: Communications and External Relations

Tel: +264 61 222 666

communications@cran.na