

**Physical Address:**  
Communications House,  
No.56 Robert Mugabe  
Avenue, Windhoek, Namibia

**Postal Address:** Private Bag  
13309, Windhoek, Namibia,  
**Tel :** +264 61 222 666,  
**Fax:** +264 61 222 790

**Email:** [cran@cran.na](mailto:cran@cran.na),  
**Fax2Email:** +264 088 642 748,  
**Website:** [www.cran.na](http://www.cran.na)



**STATEMENT BY MR. FESTUS K. MBANDEKA,  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF NAMIBIA**

**CRAN GRN MOU SIGNING CEREMONY**

**22 February 2016**

- Mr Bevan Simataa, Commissioner of Customs & Excise,
- Customs & Excise Team,
- CRAN colleagues,
- Distinguished members of the media,
- Ladies and gentlemen,
- Director of Ceremonies,

Good afternoon and thank you for joining us for Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signing ceremony between the Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia (CRAN) and the Ministry of Finance: Directorate of Customs and Excise.

**Director of Ceremonies,**

This MoU is focussed on type approval of imported telecommunications equipment to be used within the borders of the Republic of Namibia. Section 80 of the Communications Act, 2009 (Act No. 8 of 2009) authorises CRAN to prescribe reasonable standards applicable to imported telecommunications equipment to ensure against harm to electronic telecommunications and networks, protect public health and safety.

I am pleased that we are here today to coordinate, harmonise and secure the consistent application of the respective laws governing the import, export and or the manufacturing of telecommunications equipment in our country. The MoU will therefore establish a framework on equipment approvals and standards at the various border posts within and around the Republic of Namibia and set the agenda for interaction and cooperation between the signatories while being



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mindful of the respective applicable laws. In order to enforce the regulations, Customs and Excise Officials will require permits, certificates and training on imported type approved equipment.

The Regulations in Respect of Type Approval and Technical Standards for Telecommunications equipment are applicable to all persons who use, sell, offer for sale or connect telecommunications equipment to an electronic communications network within the Republic of Namibia and all radio communications equipment or apparatus to be utilised in terms of the Regulations regarding Licence Exempted Spectrum.

The process of authorising the use of telecommunications equipment in Namibia involves the verification of such equipment, ensuring that same conforms to, meets the applicable technical standards and is compatible with the provisions of the Act and other regulatory requirements.

The regulations became effective on 26 June 2015 with a grace period for implementation extended to 30 April 2016. All imported equipment that is not type approved by CRAN by 30 April 2016 will not be allowed into the Republic of Namibia.

Type Approval certificates are issued for type approved equipment and are valid for 3 years and must be renewed accordingly. The various fees per equipment category are outlined in the published regulations and are included in the media packs for your convenience and publication.

### **Director of Ceremonies,**

CRAN may monitor compliance by carrying out inspections and thus perform market surveillance activities from time to time in accordance with the provisions of Chapter X of the Act and in collaboration with the Directorate of Customs and Excise. The holders of type approval certificates must cooperate in such activities



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and may be required by CRAN to provide, without charge to CRAN, samples of telecommunications equipment and documentation.

Individuals and entities that are non-compliant with these regulations or the applicable technical standards must forthwith cease to use, sell or offer for sale or connect telecommunications equipment to an electronic communications network and dispose thereof at their own expense as directed by CRAN. I wish to stress equipment that does not comply with these regulations may be seized by CRAN.

Importers of telecommunications equipment will remain responsible for the transport and storage costs for equipment which has not been type approved by CRAN but has been brought within the borders of the Republic of Namibia.

With those few words, thank you to our partners in law enforcement, in particular the Officials of Customs and Excise for assisting CRAN in applying the respective laws and regulations. We collectively believe in protecting Namibian users of telecommunications equipment from any harm.

I Thank You!!!!

