

CITY OF WINDHOEK AND PARATUS DISPUTE FOR ADJUDICATION

14 FEBRUARY 2020

The Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia (CRAN) (without necessarily responding to all the matters raised) herewith provides clarity and information on the issue pertaining to the laying of fiber optic cables in the municipal boundaries of the City of Windhoek (CoW) by Paratus Telecommunications (Pty) Limited.

The City of Windhoek referred a dispute on 02 August 2019 for adjudication to CRAN. The issue to be determined by the Authority pertains to whether the two (2) parties (CoW and Paratus) comply with the provisions of the Communications Act (No. 8 of 2009) that deal with the procedure for laying of fiber optic cables within municipal boundaries.

CRAN hosted an Oral Hearing on 14 February 2020 and is expected to make a decision on this matter within 30 days. CRAN's decision will be published in the *Government Gazette* and all stakeholders will be informed accordingly.

Owing to the fact that this matter is still pending before the Authority, questions posed to CRAN on this matter will not be responded to as same require CRAN to express an opinion on the merits.

The Authority received numerous queries on whether or not the CoW has a Telecommunications Service Licence. Kindly note that CoW submitted an application for a Telecommunications Service Licence to the Authority. This application is under consideration and once a decision is made, such decision will be published in the *Government Gazette* and all stakeholders will be informed accordingly.

"ENDS"

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