



CRAN

Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia

REMARKS

BY

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

AT THE

OFFICIAL HANDOVER OF CORPORATE SOCIAL INVESTMENT BY COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF NAMIBIA (CRAN)

- **Date:** Monday, 08 March 2021
- **Venue:** AM Weinberg Boutique Hotel
- **Time:** 10h00

- Director of Ceremonies,
- Honourable Anna Nghipondoka, Minister of Education, Arts and Culture,
- Honourable Faustina Caley, Deputy Minister of Education, Arts and Culture,
- Ms. Sanet Steenkamp, Executive Director at the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture,
- CRAN Executive Management and Team,
- Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture Representatives,
- Esteemed members of the media,
- Invited guests,
- Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning and thank you for joining us to witness the official handover of a donation by the Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia (CRAN) to the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture. The donation is for sanitary essentials for 770 girls at identified schools across the country.

Director of Ceremonies,

As the Regulator for the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector in our country, our mandate is to regulate telecommunication services and networks, broadcasting services, postal services and the use and allocation of radio spectrum. Our

strategic intent which is guided by our mandate, enables us to ensure that the Authority regulates the ICT industry for the benefit of all Namibians, inclusive of our Namibian girl child.

Pursuant to this mandate, the Authority through our regulatory framework is striving to shape a socio- economic environment for ICT users through building capacity. This capacity building takes place through ensuring access to affordable and quality Information Communication Technology (ICT) products and services for all.

Director of Ceremonies,

There are many opportunities in the ICT industry for our Namibian girl child. Therefore, as a regulator in an industry that has a huge impact on the economy, we deem it necessary to inspire, motivate and extend a helping hand to our Namibian girl child.

As we observe and remain abreast with emerging trends in our sector, we took note of the recent publication of the plight of the Namibian girl children, who are unable to attend school due to the lack of sanitary essentials. For this reason, and with the limited available resources, the Authority approached our employees to assist with donations towards keeping a Namibian girl child in school. The employees, heeded our call and generously donated N\$ 2,300.00 towards our corporate social investment initiative. CRAN contributed

approximately N\$64,000. In total an amount of approximately N\$66,000 was utilised towards the purchase of disposable and reusable sanitary essentials for 770 school girls from across the country.

Director of Ceremonies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

As we strive to ensure employee engagement at all levels, employees were invited to identify needing and deserving schools from across the country to become beneficiaries of this investment.

The schools were identified based on the needs of the children living in those communities. We also looked at communities where CRAN has not previously assisted. To this end, the following schools were identified:

- Ondao Mobile Primary School in Okapembambu Unit, Kunene Region was identified and nominated by Stanley Kavetu, Chairperson of CRAN' Worker's Union Representative Committee (WURCOM) and Legal Advisor.
- Ndoro Memorial Secondary School in Simbanda Circuit, Zambezi Region was identified and nominated Ivan Molefe, ICT Administrator.
- Kaisosi Primary School near Rundu, Kavango East Region was identified and nominated by Joseph Kemba, Spectrum and

Licensing Officer.

- Hanganeni Primary School in Swakopmund, Erongo Region was identified and nominated Katrina Siken, Head: Corporate Communication.

Director of Ceremonies,

This initiative has not only enabled that we keep our girls in school, but has contributed towards the empowerment of our small and medium sector as the disposable sanitary essentials, namely the Ann Pads, are produced by a local manufacturer. As we celebrate women's day, we are truly ecstatic that this donation was made possible by the hardworking women at Ann Pads for the benefit of our girls.

We have also observed, with humility, the motion tabled in the National Assembly by our Deputy Minister of ICT, Honourable Emma Theofilus, seeking for the amendment of the tax laws to allow for tax exemption on all menstrual hygiene products. We believe that such an exemption will go a long way in addressing the plight of the Namibian girl child and CRAN fully supports the call of by Honourable Theofilus.

Director of Ceremonies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

To conclude in brief, today we are very pleased that the Ministry of

Education, Arts and Culture embraced our Corporate Social Investment. We are finally excited that this handover coincides with the celebration of Women's day – as it ties in with our objective of ensuring that girls are empowered to become the future leaders.

With these few words, I Thank You.