



OPENING REMARKS

FOR

**MS. VIVIENNE E. KATJIUONGUA
VICE-CHAIRPERSON: CRAN BOARD**

AT THE

**PUBLIC HEARING ON THE APPLICATION FOR
RECONSIDERATION SUBMITTED BY PARATUS
TELECOMMUNICATIONS (PTY) LTD:
AWARD OF A CLASS COMPREHENSIVE
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE LICENCE (ECNS/ECS)
TO THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
WINDHOEK (COW)**

15 JULY 2020

- **Members of various political parties,**
- **Esteemed ICT stakeholders,**
- **CRAN Board of Directors,**
- **CRAN Management,**
- **CRAN colleagues,**
- **Members of the media,**
- **Invited guests,**
- **Ladies and gentlemen,**

Good morning and a very warm welcome! Thank you for accepting our invitation to this important public consultative meeting on the application for reconsideration submitted by Paratus Telecommunications (Pty) Ltd, in relation to the award of a Class Comprehensive Telecommunications Service Licence to the Municipal Council of the City of Windhoek (CoW).

On 03 June 2020, CRAN published the application for reconsideration submitted by Paratus Telecommunications (Pty) Ltd in the *Government Gazette* for public comments. In the gazette notice, CRAN invited all interested parties to submit written representations on the application by Paratus and to make such submissions within fourteen (14) days from the date of publication in the government gazette. We received six (6) written representations in this regard from Telecom Namibia Limited, the Internet Society of Namibia, ICT Trading Enterprises CC, Dimension Data, Hon. Henk Mudge and Mr. H Barnard.

CRAN further deemed it necessary to host the public hearing, in terms of Regulation 14 of the Regulations regarding Licensing Procedures, which makes provision for CRAN to host a public consultative meeting to provide stakeholders with an opportunity to make oral submissions and/or amplify their written submissions. We therefore expect this public hearing to provide additional information or clarify on certain issues raised by stakeholders in their respective submissions.

Director of Ceremonies,

CRAN prides itself as a dynamic regulator and will continue to independently regulate the ICT industry by creating a competitive and levelled playing field in order to increase access to telecommunications, and advanced information services to all regions of Namibia in order to promote just, reasonable and affordable prices.

In terms of the process for today, as set out in today's programme, we will allow presenters to make their oral presentations for 30 minutes, subsequent to which the stakeholders will ask questions of clarity.

I would like to urge the presenters stick to the points relevant to the application for reconsideration by Paratus. We would also like to thank presenters for heeding our request to provide their presentations ahead of time.

Ladies and gentlemen,

In conclusion, thank you once again for gracing us with your presence, and I trust that today's deliberations will be fruitful and that all invited stakeholders will take part in this consultative process.

Further information, clarity and verification on the Authority's decision will be provided for, and explained in the next presentation as per the programme.

I thank you!