



OPENING REMARKS

FOR

FESTUS K. MBANDEKA

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

AT THE

**COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORS' ASSOCIATION OF
SOUTHERN AFRICA (CRASA) LEGAL AND POLICY
COMMITTEE MEETING**

18 FEBRUARY 2020

- **CRASA Legal and Policy Committee Chairperson,**
- **CRASA Executive Secretary, Mr. Antony Chigaazira,**
- **CRASA Head Postal Services, Mr. Brian Mwanza,**
- **CRASA Legal and Policy Members,**
- **CRAN Management and team members,**
- **Ladies and gentlemen,**

Good morning and a warm welcome to Namibia!

It is indeed my pleasure to welcome you to the Communications Regulators' Association of Southern Africa (CRASA) Legal and Policy Committee (LPC) Meeting, taking place in Windhoek, the great capital city of Namibia. I understand that this meeting is historic in the sense that it is the first time that Namibia is hosting a LPC meeting.

This meeting is tasked with the important mandate of providing legal and policy advice to the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and CRASA Committees on ICT related international, regional and domestic matters. It is for this reasons that I encourage the meeting to give advice that is useful in furthering the objectives of CRASA. The Committee must further ensure that ICT policies and guidelines are harmonised.

The work of this committee shapes the regulatory framework of the SADC region. Your collective mandate is thus to ensure a harmonised regulatory framework which will lead to the development and

expansion of the ICT sector, in order to ensure that ICT goods and services benefit, reach and offer greater choices for Namibians and our regional citizens. As regulators that operate in a sector with a global footprint, we cannot operate in isolation. Therefore, we must continue to benchmark and harmonise our laws and enforcement for the sake of regional integration.

Allow me to reaffirm the continued commitment of the Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia (CRAN) towards building strategic relations with our fellow regulators in the Southern African Development Community (SADC), under the umbrella of CRASA for the socio-economic benefit of all Namibians.

In conclusion, as we deliberate over the next three (3) days, let us build on the foundations that have been laid at previous committee meetings so that CRASA can accomplish its mission and realise its vision.

I hope you will enjoy your stay in our beautiful country Namibia.

I thank you!