



CRAN

Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia

OPENING REMARKS

FOR

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

AT THE

**PUBLIC HEARING ON NATIONAL NUMBERING
REGULATIONS TO MAKE PROVISION FOR NUMBER
PORTABILITY**

25 JULY 2017

- **Esteemed ICT stakeholders,**
- **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 consultative meeting on the Numbering Regulations, which intends to provide the Regulations prescribing the National Numbering Plan for the use of Telecommunications Services in the Republic of Namibia, Numbering Licence Fees and Procedures for Number Licences for the implementation of fixed and mobile number portability within 12 months of final Regulations which were published in *Government Gazette* No. 6351 dated 30 June 2017.

The purpose of these Regulations is to provide for number portability by all services and technology neutral licensees and to set out additional requirements in the numbering plan for fixed and mobile number portability.

Ladies and gentlemen

The Regulations will apply to service technology neutral telecommunications services stakeholders' issued with one or more number licences for the provision of electronic services.

The transition period for adherence to the National Numbering Plan as published on 1 April 2016 has ended on 31 March 2017. This numbering plan laid the foundation for Number Portability, which allows the porting of numbers between mobile, fixed and voice over internet protocol. CRAN's role and legal obligation is to ensure that all holders of number licences adhere to this numbering plan and

implement number portability in accordance thereto within the prescribed 12 months from the final publication of the proposed regulations.

Number portability will allow customers to keep their number when changing providers of communications services.

Ladies and gentlemen

Number portability requirements support and align with the objectives of the Communications Act, (Act No. 8 of 2009) in creating a wide range of efficient electronic communications services, promoting technological innovation and the deployment of advanced facilities or services. It further provides the customer with the right to keep his or her number when changing service providers and will support economic growth, encourage participation in the communications sector and ensure fair competition.

To conclude, CRAN aims to create greater transparency, understanding and consultation on the proposed regulation regarding number portability and we appreciate your input in deliberations.

I thank you!