



# CRAN

Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia

## REMARKS BY

**DR. TULIMEVAVA MUFETI, CHAIRPERSON  
CRAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**AT THE**

**COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF NAMIBIA  
(CRAN) NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS INTRODUCTION  
BREAKFAST**

**Date:** Thursday, 11 May 2023

**Venue:** Avani Hotel: Sossusvlei Room

**Time:** 08h00

- Director of Ceremonies,
- Mr. Elvis Nashilongo, Vice-Chairperson of the Board of Directors,
- Fellow newly appointed Board Members,
- Outgoing CRAN Board of Directors,
- Mrs. Emilia Nghikembua, Chief Executive Officer,
- Executive Management and team,

Good morning!

It is my distinct honour and humble privilege to have been afforded an opportunity to share a message as incoming Chairperson of the Board of Directors and introduce the new Board of Directors this morning.

The Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia (CRAN) was established in terms of the Communications Act (No. 8 of 2009), as an independent regulator that regulates, supervises, and promotes the provision of telecommunications services and networks, broadcasting and postal services, and the use and allocation of radio spectrum in Namibia.

Since its establishment in 2011, CRAN has remained dedicated to its vision statement "*Access, Quality and Affordability for All*" and to its mission "*To regulate the ICT and Postal sectors for the socio-economic benefit of all Namibians.*" As a dynamic regulator of the ICT sector,

CRAN is instrumental in harnessing the power of ICT, moving beyond the constraints of “*place*” and “*time*”, and transforming Namibia and its people into an active knowledge-based society that derives the full socio-economic benefits of ICTs.

The Authority’s successes over the years are directly related to its high ethical values and good corporate governance structures and principles. CRAN enjoys fruitful relationships with key stakeholders and live out all aspects of its values encompassing Accountability, Passion, Teamwork, Respect, and Innovation.

### **Director of Ceremonies,**

In March 2023, CRAN launched its Integrated Strategic Business Plan (ISBP) for the period 01 April 2023 to 31 March 2026, which aims to improve service provision to customers and address the affordability of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) services in the sector. CRAN’s mandate entails the development and expansion of the ICT sector in Namibia so that all Namibians have access to a variety of services, products at high quality and affordable rates.

The CRAN 2023 to 2026 Strategic Plan focuses on the following strategic themes:

- i. **Organisational Sustainability** – Ensuring that CRAN has sufficient resources, skills, and systems to deliver the full scope of its mandate;

- ii. **Strategic Partnering and Collaborations** – Ensuring effective engagement of stakeholders and satisfactory service to consumers;
- iii. **Digital Transformation** – Ensuring integration of digital technologies into all areas of business, commerce, and Government; and
- iv. **Market Development and Consumer Protection** – Ensuring consumer protection in the ICT sector and promoting the widespread coverage and use of ICT services for national development across all sectors.

Some of the challenges we as the Board need to address are the cost of data and other telecommunications services in Namibia, which remains high due to factors such as refusal by operators to share infrastructure. Infrastructure Sharing is an economic arrangement that bears a legal obligation on dominant telecommunications operators to share spare capacity on their network with non-dominant operators.

Additionally, cyber-attacks have increasingly become the norm and, as the national regulator of telecommunications service providers, CRAN is required to implement provisions and functions in forthcoming legislation to make ICT services more secure, reliable, and trusted.

Furthermore, in the context of the operating environment, the Authority's ability to regulate with impact was constrained due to the financial position. CRAN is still waiting for a judgement from the Supreme Court regarding Section 23 of the Communications Act, which was considered unconstitutional, halting CRAN in collecting regulatory levies from the Operators.

On a positive outlook, the newly appointed Board of Directors look forward to the Spectrum Auction outcome, which will allow operators to roll-out 5G services through the 800 MHz and 700 MHz spectrum band, in addition to 4G services ensuring optimal use of the spectrum to foster digital inclusivity throughout Namibia and shall be utilised as a tool to develop communications services and access to ICT infrastructure as a basis for social and economic development.

### **Director of Ceremonies,**

Allow me to introduce the newly appointed CRAN Board of Directors, which consists of:

- Myself, Dr. Tulimevava Mufeti, Chairperson of the Board of Directors,
- Mr. Elvis Nashilongo, Vice-Chairperson of the Board of Directors,
- Ms. Jeanine Du Toit, Member,
- Ms. Florette Nakusera, Member,
- Mr. Gerhard Coeln, Member,
- Ms. Aletha Haufiku, Member, and
- Mr. Veikko Alexander, Member.

I wish to conclude by appealing to the Board of Directors, Chief Executive Officer, EXCO and all CRAN employees to continue regulating this sector in accordance with the provisions of the relevant and enabling legislation for the benefit of all Namibians.

We collectively look forward to contributing to the outstanding value creation in driving sustainable economic growth and enabling better healthcare, education, and government services and, in the process, enriching human society.

**I Thank You!**