



CRAN

Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia

REMARKS BY

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AT THE

**THE COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF
NAMIBIA'S (CRAN) STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT MEETING ON
E-WASTE**

Date: Monday, 25 March 2024

Venue: Communications House, No. 56, Robert Mugabe
Avenue

Time: 09h00 to 10h00

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen, esteemed stakeholders.

I am pleased to welcome you all to this important Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia's (CRAN) stakeholder engagement meeting on electronic waste, also known as e-Waste.

In a world where technological advancements are rapidly changing the way we live and work, the issue of e-Waste management has become more critical than ever before.

As we all know, electronic devices have become an integral part of our everyday lives. From smartphones and laptops to televisions and refrigerators, electronic devices play a crucial role in our modern society. However, what many of us may not realise is the environmental impact of these devices once they reach the end of their lifecycle.

E-waste is a growing concern globally, with millions of tons of electronic devices being discarded each year. These devices contain hazardous materials such as lead, mercury, and cadmium, which can have detrimental effects on both the environment and human health if not disposed of properly.

In Namibia, the issue of e-Waste management is particularly pertinent given the rapid pace of technological development in our country.

As more and more electronic devices are being introduced into the market, it is essential that we develop effective strategies for the collection, recycling, and disposal of e-Waste.

At CRAN, we recognise the importance of addressing e-Waste management in a holistic and sustainable manner. One of the key initiatives has been the establishment of a national e-waste management framework, which provides guidelines for the proper handling and disposal of electronic devices by the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism. This framework will emphasise the importance of reducing e-waste generation through product design and innovation, as well as promoting recycling and reuse to minimise the environmental impact of electronic devices.

In addition to our regulatory efforts, we have been collaborating with industry stakeholders, civil society organisations, and government agencies to raise awareness about the importance of e-Waste management and to build capacity for its effective implementation. Through these partnerships, we aim to create a comprehensive e-Waste management system that is sustainable, inclusive, and environmentally friendly.

However, we cannot address the issue of e-Waste management alone. It requires a collective effort from all stakeholders, including manufacturers, retailers, consumers, and government agencies, to

create a more sustainable and responsible approach to electronic waste management.

Hence, I am thrilled to see all of you here today, representing a diverse range of stakeholders who are committed to addressing the issue of e-Waste in Namibia. Your participation in this stakeholder engagement meeting is a testament to our shared commitment to finding solutions to this pressing issue.

Together, we can work towards a future where e-Waste is no longer a challenge but an opportunity for innovation and sustainability. Let us continue to collaborate, share best practices, and drive meaningful change in the way we manage electronic waste in Namibia.

Thank you for your attention, and I look forward to fruitful discussions and collaborations throughout this stakeholder engagement meeting.

I Thank You!