

CRAN HOSTS PUBLIC CONSULTATIVE MEETINGS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

05 February 2019

The Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia (CRAN) hosted two public consultative meetings on **Regulations prescribing license categories and licensing application procedures for Postal Service Licensees** and **the amendment to the Regulations in respect of Type Approval and Technical Standards for Telecommunications Equipment** respectively on 30 January 2019, in Windhoek.

a. Consultative meeting on Regulations prescribing license categories and licensing application procedures for Postal Services Licensees:

The consultative meeting on Regulations prescribing license categories and licensing application procedures for Postal Services Licensees highlighted the mandate of CRAN in accordance with the Communications Act (No. 8 of 2009) to regulate telecommunication services and network, broadcasting services, postal services and the use and allocation of radio spectrum. In order to commence with the regulation of the postal sector, CRAN published a Notice in July 2018 inviting interested stakeholders to submit written comments to the Authority on the proposed postal regulations.

“Regulation of the postal sector is at an advanced stage and the objectives of these regulations are to prescribe Postal Service License categories, regulating the issuing, amendment, transfer and renewal of Postal Service Licenses and will upon enforcement be applicable to all Postal Service Licensees operating within the jurisdiction of Namibia” said Festus K. Mbandeka, Chief Executive Officer, CRAN.

The Authority has, however, put the regulation of courier sector on hold until further notice. The halt on courier sector regulation is due to a revised in-house strategy and the Authority intends to conduct a Regulatory Impact Assessment Study on Courier Services in Namibia.

b. Consultative Meeting on the amendment to the regulations in respect of Type Approval and Technical Standards for Telecommunications Equipment:

The Type Approval consultative meeting aimed to provide an overview and give a comprehensive framework of the various types of telecommunication equipment that require and those that do not require Type Approval for the benefit of all ICT stakeholders. The consultative meeting created a platform to discuss mutual understanding pertaining to compliance and enforcement for the amendment to the regulations in respect of Type Approval and technical standards for telecommunication equipment.

“Compliance of telecommunications equipment is not only based on national standards but are aligned with international standards applicable to Namibia” said

Mbandeka. The Type Approval regulations prevents the operation and import of sub-standard equipment that are not compatible with local networks from entering into the country as such imported products may present health and safety hazards to consumers added Mbandeka. Type Approval of such equipment ensures that the operating frequency of telecommunications equipment and radio apparatus are in conformance with the national frequency band plan of Namibia.

The amended regulations will be applicable to all telecommunications equipment used, sold, offered for sale or connected to an electronic communications network within the borders of Namibia and are applicable to all persons, whether legal or natural persons, and the state.

All importers, vendors, patent owners and equipment manufacturers of telecommunication equipment are responsible to obtain Type Approval certificates from CRAN. Certification should be received prior to any goods entering the borders of the Republic of Namibia. Goods that reach the border without Type Approval certification will remain at the borders (at the cost of importers) until such time that certification received and goods are released and or returned.

For any queries in this regard contact **Mr. Jochen Traut, Chief Operations Officer** on Tel: (061) 222 666 or via electronic mail to JTraut@cran.na.

“ENDS”

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