

## **OUTCOME OF RADIO FREQUENCY SPECTRUM AUCTION (885-890 MHZ AND 930-935 MHZ)**

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The Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia (CRAN) (herein after referred to as the Authority) herewith announces the outcome of the radio frequency spectrum auction (885-890 MHz and 930-935 MHz) which closed on 11 June 2021. "The Authority made a decision to assign 2x 5 MHz in the spectrum band 880-915 MHz paired with 925-960 MHz (FDD) to Mobile Telecommunications Limited (MTC)," said Emilia Nghikembua, Chief Executive Officer, CRAN.

"The licence will improve congestion in urban areas, caused by the increase in network utilisation due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The award is for the provision of broadband services with a minimum downlink data speed of not less than 2 Mbps, subject to the rollout obligations imposed as licence conditions," added Nghikembua.

"CRAN, in consultation with the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture, identified twenty-five (25) schools in remote/rural areas with either no services or only 2G mobile services to be provided with broadband services by MTC as part of the rollout obligations. The schools are situated in Kavango East, Kavango West, !Karas, Kunene, Hardap, Erongo and Omaheke Region," said Nghikembua.

This Spectrum Licence will be used to further governmental policy objectives set out in the National Broadband Policy which provides that 80% of schools are to be provided with broadband infrastructure and services by 2020/2021, and increased to 95% by 2021/2022. The award is also aligned with the objectives of the Harambee Prosperity Plan II, which calls for rollout of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) infrastructure to improve national and population coverage. The award of Spectrum Licence is in accordance with the provisions of the Communications Act (No. 8 of 2009) and ancillary regulations.

The award of the Spectrum Licence to MTC shall therefore, certainly benefit ICT consumers in both remote and urban areas of the country and shall have a positive impact on the acceleration of ICT development in Namibia. The Authority congratulates MTC on this milestone and wishes MTC well in its roll out project.

***"Ends"***

**Issued by CRAN:**

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