



OPENING

**FESTUS K. MBANDEKA
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF NAMIBIA

**PUBLIC HEARING: REGULATIONS SETTING OUT THE SPECTRUM BAND PLAN
FOR NAMIBIA**

09 AUGUST 2016

- **Mrs. Linda Aipinge, Director of ICT Ministry of Information and Communication Technology and her team**
- **Esteemed industry stakeholders**
- **CRAN team,**
- **Representatives from the media,**
- **Ladies and gentlemen,**
- **Director of Ceremonies,**

A very warm welcome and thank you for accepting our invitation to this important public hearing.

Public hearings such as this one we are conducting today are a critical step during CRAN's rule-making process. Beyond meeting statutory requirements, public hearings also serve as a means through which CRAN aims to gain the valuable contributions of stakeholders and also provide them with a platform for feedback on regulations we formulate.

Ladies and gentlemen

We invited you here today because CRAN intends to replace the current Spectrum Band Plan published on 31 May 2013. The current Spectrum Band Plan, a first for Namibia under CRAN, was published in accordance with the Final Acts of the World Radiocommunication Conference held in 2012 in Geneva, Switzerland.

In November 2015, the International Telecommunications Union, ITU for short, convened another World Radiocommunication Conference, “WRC-15” for short, with the aim to:

- Review the world’s radio regulations; and
- To relook at the international treaty governing the use of the radio-frequency spectrum and the geostationary-satellite and non-geostationary-satellite orbits.

Decisions were taken at WRC-15; which includes the new and revised provisions of the Radio Regulations, as well as the new and revised resolutions and recommendations approved by the Conference.

Director of Ceremonies,

Namibia, as a member state of the ITU and as an active participant in WRC-15, has an international obligation to structure its national spectrum band plan in accordance with the outcomes of WRC-15 as contained in the Final Acts.

Spectrum is a scarce and limited resource utilised for the provision of ICT services in all their diversity. Therefore, this very important resource requires careful management to support the changing technological, social, political and economic environments, for the maximum net benefit of all today and in the long-term.

It is in light of the above CRAN, has formulated a new National Spectrum Band Plan and related regulations as mandated by the Communications Act.

Ladies and gentlemen, before I conclude, allow me to speak about a very important decision taken at WRC-15.

The Conference agreed to allocate a portion of the radio spectrum for global flight tracking to prevent future disappearances in direct response to the disappearance of Malaysian Airlines Flight MH370 in which 239 people lost their lives. This decision will give confidence to airline passengers and to their loved ones.

Ladies and gentlemen

Let me conclude and by inviting you once again to utilise this platform to make your voice heard. We, in turn, promise to consider your valuable input as we advance to the next step in this process.

I thank you for listening!