



**WELCOMING REMARKS BY**

**EMILIA NGHIKEMBUA,  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**AT THE**

**COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF  
NAMIBIA'S (CRAN) PUBLIC HEARINGS ON THE NEW  
NATIONAL FREQUENCY BAND PLAN FOR NAMIBIA AND  
FREQUENCY CHANNELING PLAN FOR 694-790 MHZ  
SPECTRUM BAND**

**Date:** Thursday, 17 June 2021

**Venue:** Virtually/Panellist join in CRAN Boardroom,  
Unit 21

**Time:** 10h00

- Director of Ceremonies,
- Esteemed ICT Stakeholders,
- CRAN Executive Management and team,
- Members of the Media,
- Invited guests,
- Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning and a warm welcome! Thank you for accepting our invitation and joining us virtually to this important public consultative meetings pertaining to the proposed regulations on the **new National Frequency Band Plan for Namibia** and **Frequency Channeling Plan for the 694-790 MHz Spectrum band**.

The Regulations regarding Rule-Making Procedures and Section 129 of the Communications Act (No. 8 of 2009) prescribes for the procedures to be followed when enacting regulations. Pursuant thereto, the Authority holds this public hearing on the proposed changes to the Frequency Band Plan regulations and Frequency Channeling Plan for 694-790 MHz.

**Director of Ceremonies,**

Allow me to commence with the business of the day with the public hearing for this morning, namely, the **Proposed National Frequency Band Plan for Namibia**, applicable in the assignment of Spectrum Licences issued in terms of Section 101 of the Communications Act

(No. 8 of 2009) and Regulations prescribing Procedures regarding the Application for and Amendment, Renewal, Transfer and Cancellation of Spectrum Licences as published in Government Gazette No. 6888, General Notice No. 104 dated 29 April 2019, as may be amended from time to time.

The table of frequency allocation as published in Government Gazette No. 7350, General Notice No. 409 dated 02 October 2020, sets out planned allocations for the radio frequency spectrum in Namibia for spectrum band from 8.3 KHz to 3000 GHz.

The table depicts the table set out by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in its Radio Regulations based on the outcomes of World Radiocommunication Conference 2019 (WRC-19), the 2020 Southern African Development Community (SADC) Frequency Allocation Plan and the Namibian Frequency Band Plan as denoted by the different column headings. The allocations set out in this plan will be applicable until the review of the plan after WRC-23.

**Director of Ceremonies,**

The second part of our proceedings today is the public hearing dealing with the **Proposed Frequency Channeling Plan for the Spectrum Band 694 – 790 MHz**, which sets out how the spectrum band between 694 to 790 MHz will be assigned. This is done in compliance with the Final Acts of the ITU WRC-19. At an international level, the

planning of spectrum is the responsibility of the ITU, in particular the ITU's Radiocommunication Bureau (ITU-R). The mission of the ITU-R is to ensure rational, equitable, efficient and economical use of the radio frequency spectrum and to adopt recommendations for member states such as Namibia.

At a national level, the Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia (CRAN) is vested with the control, planning, administration, management and licensing of radio spectrum in terms of Section 99 of the Communications Act (No. 8 of 2009). Furthermore, in terms of Section 99 of the Act, CRAN is required to comply with the applicable standards and requirements of ITU and its Radio Regulations.

Moreover, Section 100 of the Communications Act (No. 8 of 2009) deals specifically with the prescription of a frequency band plan setting out how radio spectrum may be used to ensure utilization in an orderly, efficient and effective manner, in order to reduce congestion and interference, to allow for the introduction of new services and to permit as many licensees to provide a wide array of services as possible. Additionally, a Frequency Channeling Plan is complementary to the Spectrum Band Plan.

Subsequent to the proposed Frequency Channeling Plan, the principles considered to define the International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) frequency arrangement are as follows:

- (a) To facilitate the implementation of mobile broadband communications for robust and reliable critical emergency services for Public Protection and Disaster Relief (PPDR) in accordance with Resolution 646 of WRC-19;
- (b) Spectrum efficiency and high level of flexibility, in order to adapt to national circumstances, as well as to meet the changing need and demand for capacity in time and geography;
- (c) To protect broadcasting services below 694 MHz;
- (d) The use of a 5 MHz block approach, in line with the foreseen mobile systems to be used in the 700 MHz spectrum band; and
- (e) To facilitate roaming and cross-border coordination.

**Director of Ceremonies,**

In conclusion, the Authority shall honour present and future commitments of our country in terms of the ITU regulations, international agreements and standards in respect of radio communication and telecommunication matters.

Additionally, CRAN is currently undertaking the rule-making process and it is for that reason that we are all here today. We can achieve this and much more with the involvement of various stakeholders, therefore we urge you to actively participate in this process today as we anticipate fruitful deliberations. I am certain that our strategic relationship with you, our esteemed stakeholders, will develop and

continue to strengthen through this consultative meeting and other future engagements.

I thank you!