



OPENING REMARKS BY

**MRS. EMILIA NGHIKEMBUA,
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**AT THE COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF
NAMIBIA (CRAN) AND BOTSWANA COMMUNICATIONS
REGULATORY AUTHORITY (BOCRA) MEMORANDUM OF
UNDERSTANDING (MOU) SIGNING CEREMONY**

Date: Thursday, 16 November 2023

Venue: Strand Hotel, Swakopmund

Time: 19h00

- Mr. Murphy Setshwane, Director Business Development, BOCRA
- Mrs. Joyce Wema Isa-Molwane, Director Legal & Compliance, BOCRA,
- BOCRA Executive Management and Team,
- Dr. Audrin Mathe, Executive Director, MICT,
- MICT Executive Management and Team,
- Invited Guests,
- Director of Ceremonies,

Good evening! On behalf of the Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia (CRAN), it is my great pleasure to welcome you at the beautiful Strand Hotel, Swakopmund in Erongo Region to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signing ceremony between CRAN and the Botswana Communications Regulatory Authority (BOCRA).

Today marks a significant milestone in promoting collaboration and cooperation between CRAN and BOCRA in the field of telecommunications, radio communications, and postal industry regulation. This event symbolises the strong bond and shared commitment in advancing our respective experiences, knowledge, and practices. Together, we aspire to foster a communication ecosystem that is efficient, reliable, innovative, and customer centric.

Director of Ceremonies,

The world we live in is interconnected in ways we could never have imagined a few decades ago. The rapid advancements in technology revolutionised the way we communicate, transforming societies and economies across the globe. With telecommunications acting as the backbone for this digital revolution, it is crucial for regulatory bodies to adapt, learn, and collaborate in order to keep pace with the ever-evolving industry.

Namibia and Botswana have both made remarkable progress in shaping the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector in our respective countries. Today, we come together to build upon these achievements by exchanging information, best practices, and experiences. Sharing these invaluable insights will undoubtedly enhance the quality of regulation and drive further advancements in our nations.

The MoU we are signing today sets the foundation for a collaborative journey, fostering an environment of constant learning and improvement. Through this partnership, we aim to leverage each other's strengths, capitalise on opportunities, and address challenges collectively. This collaboration will encompass an array of areas, including Data Roaming Initiatives, Management of radio spectrum, Cybersecurity and data protection, Regulation of

telecommunications markets, E-waste, Collection and processing of statistical data, Consumer protection in relation to telecommunication services, Promotion of technical innovation in the telecommunications field, International cooperation especially in the framework of International Telecommunication Union (ITU), and Quality of Services (QoS).

Furthermore, the MoU will also entail collaboration in areas of ICT Regulatory framework in sustainable smart cities, Regulatory framework for Mobile to Mobile (M2M) communications, Collection and processing of statistical data, Over-the-Top (OTT) Services, Licensing, Licensing framework for broadcasting services, Other issues as may be mutually agreed upon by both Parties, Digital inclusion and literacy and broadband services, Audit telecommunications systems and infrastructures, and Regulation of broadcasting and Postal Services.

Director of Ceremonies,

In the spirit of this MoU, let us also acknowledge the imperative need to bridge the digital divide and ensure that all citizens, regardless of location or socio-economic status, have access to affordable and inclusive telecommunications services. By sharing our experiences in providing universal access, we can work towards narrowing this divide and achieving greater digital inclusion in both our nations.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the esteemed representatives from BOCRA and MICT for joining us today. I would also like to express my deep appreciation to the dedicated teams at CRAN and BOCRA who have worked tirelessly to bring us to this point. Their commitment, expertise, and passion for the telecommunications industry will undoubtedly drive the success of our collaboration.

In conclusion, I am confident that this MoU will mark the beginning of a fruitful partnership between CRAN and BOCRA. Together, we will shape the future of our nations' telecommunications, radio communications, and postal industry regulation. Let us seize this opportunity to learn from each other, foster innovation, and enhance the well-being of our citizens.

Thank you all for gracing this occasion with your presence. I wish us all a successful and enriching collaboration.