

REF: BOCRA/8/3/2 I (4)

6<sup>th</sup> November 2020

ICT Stakeholders

**Attention:**

Dear Sir/Madam,

**RE: Stakeholder Invitation Letter to Type Approval Verification  
(SIM Enabled Devices) Guidelines Workshop**

The above subject matter refers.

2. Botswana Communications Regulatory Authority, (BOCRA, or the Authority) is mandated by the Communications Regulatory Authority Act of 2012 to regulate communications sector. In pursuit of its mandate to protect consumers, the Authority carries out Type Approval of all communications equipment brought into the country to ensure that the equipment is compliant to Botswana Standards.
3. Despite the requirements of the current Type approval process, there is proliferation of counterfeit and substandard mobile devices into the Botswana Market. These devices use the networks and continue to pose a risk to both the network and the users. The Authority has considered a Device Verification Process to enhance the Type Approval process by managing the access of such devices into to communication networks.
4. The Authority is engaging in consultations with stakeholders to consider and make input to the proposed enhancements. The Authority has develop a Consultative Paper to discuss the pertinent issues emanating from the use of these sub standard devices. The paper further discusses how the issues are handled internationally and finally the proposed ways in which Botswana can address the

problem. Eminating from the Consultative paper, the Authority has also developed draft Guidelines for consideration. The guidelines are intended to set out the roadmap for the country to ensuring control and registration of SIM enabled devices used in the country.

5. Your organization has been identified as a key stakeholders in the communication devices value chain. You are therefore invited to make comments on the attached documents comprising, Consultative Paper, Feedback Questions and Draft Guidelines. The documents are also available at BOCRA website [www.bocra.org.bw](http://www.bocra.org.bw). You are requested to submit your comments by 16<sup>th</sup> November 2020. The comments should be sent electronically to;

- a. [tsheko@bocra.org.bw](mailto:tsheko@bocra.org.bw)
- b. [segobaetso@bocra.org.bw](mailto:segobaetso@bocra.org.bw)

6. Following your comments, BOCRA wishes to invite you to a Consultative Stakeholder Workshop to discuss the draft guidelines. The workshop shall provide a platform for exchange of views and further discussions on the comments submitted. This will assist the Authority in refining the way forward. It shall be held virtually on Thursday, 19th November 2020 at 0900Hrs on a Teams Online platform, BOCRA will send the link. You are requested to identify personnel that you may wish to invite to this meeting.

Yours Sincerely



Bathopi Luke (Pr.Eng.)  
**FOR/CHIEF EXECUTIVE**