



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

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MEDIA RELEASE

CAUTION AGAINST 'FAKE NEWS' CIRCULATING ON SOCIAL MEDIA

The Ministry of Information and Communication Technology (MICT) has noted with concern the circulation of a WhatsApp message containing misleading information since early 2018 and is still currently circulating on social media platforms. This message alleges that Government has passed a new regulation that will monitor people's cell phones and communication platforms.

MICT would like to make it clear that the Ministry has not passed any such regulation and is not in possession of a system that has links to the public's cell phones nor does MICT monitor phone calls and social media activities of citizens. It should be noted that the WhatsApp message currently circulating that indicates all calls are being recorded, and that social media platforms such as WhatsApp, Twitter, Facebook and other social media platforms are being monitored is in fact 'FAKE NEWS'.

MICT is therefore urging the public to be cautious of such messages as they are being created and circulated by people whose agenda is to create fear and destabilize peace among the public. As the spokes institution of Government, MICT will always ensure that information is communicated to the public in an official manner through all communication platforms.

The Government of the Republic of Namibia would therefore like to once again urge the public to stop circulating such fake news as it is misleading the nation. The public is further cautioned to avoid using social media platforms as a battle ground for political character assassination, discrimination, racism, sexism, tribalism and any other evil deeds to destabilize the peace and stability of the Namibian House.

We have only one common heritage which we guard jealously, and that is Namibia. Let us not play with the name and image of our country. Let our country remain the treasure for all of us at all times.


TJIUAI KAAMBO 22/01/19
ACTING PERMANENT SECRETARY

