

**WELCOME REMARKS BY Mr. C.M. LEKAUKAU, CHIEF
EXECUTIVE OF THE BTA AT THE CONSULTATIVE
WORKSHOP ON “THE DEVELOPMENT OF
TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS
AND TYPE APPROVAL PROCEDURES”**

**MAHARAJA CONFERENCE CENTRE
05 OCTOBER 2005**

PROTOCOL:

It is indeed an honour for me to be standing here today to welcome you all to this consultative workshop on the Development of Telecommunications Technical Specifications and Type Approval Procedures.

I wish to take this opportunity to recognize amongst us, the Honourable M.P. for Maun Mr. Ronald Ridge, and it is pleasing the note the keen interest that politicians are taking on technology related matters.

I wish to also recognize the presence of our counterparts from neighbouring countries and within the TRASA fraternity, and say welcome to them.

I also hope that they will share their experiences with us on this very important subject of standardization.

The BTA has for the past nine months, been working with the consultants, Interconnect Communications, a UK based consulting company of international repute, together with their local partners, Business Online, to develop a framework for Telecommunications Technical Specifications and Type Approval Procedures for the industry.

The output of this work has culminated in our meeting here today to solicit your views and comments on the report.

These are designed to simplify the procedures that are in place in order to promote growth in the industry.

We are hopeful that this initiative, together with other initiatives that have already been undertaken by the BTA, and others that will follow, will lead to further development of the industry in Botswana.

The BTA recognizes the pivotal role that ICT's play in the economy of the country. This is why we believe that consultation with industry stakeholders should be part of our daily routine.

The BTA will endeavour to incorporate the contributions that emanate from this workshop, into the final Report which will be forwarded to the BTA Board for approval before actual implementation.

With these few remarks, I wish you fruitful deliberations.

I thank you

PULA!!!!