



MEDIA RELEASE

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MTC invests millions to protect Base Stations in Northern Namibia

Namibia's leading mobile telecommunications operator, MTC, is spending N\$2.5 million to safeguard its infrastructure against the raging flood in northern Namibia and also to keep Namibians 'connected'.

WINDHOEK, Namibia – [10 March 2009] - The current floods in Northern Namibia are threatening to cut off communications between MTC's customers, with the rain water coming tantalisingly close to the Base Station infrastructure.

This has prompted MTC, Namibia's leading Network provider, to take steps to protect the Base Station infrastructure in Northern Namibia in order to keep the population connected.

A total of 120,000 sandbags will be placed around the MTC sites to protect the infrastructure. Furthermore, the MTC containers will be lifted for additional ground clearance and access roads will be put in place to reach critical sites for maintenance.

These important actions might result in brief outages on some sites in various villages and towns. MTC therefore requests the cooperation and understanding of its customers in Northern Namibia while these safeguarding measures are being implemented.

MTC also apologises to its customers and the public in general for any inconvenience caused during this time. We reiterate our resolve to do everything possible to protect our network from the threatening floods and thus save lives and properties which could otherwise be lost or destroyed as a result of the flood.

Communities in the following areas may be affected by these short outages: Epya in Ondangwa, Ondangwa Ext 3, Evululuko in Oshakati, Etende in Oshakati, Canal in Oshakati, Omatala in Oshakati, Sector 10, Ohaingu rural, lipopo rural Uutapi BSC, Okau-Kamasheshe rural, Oshoto rural and Oshikango WWT.

In addition to safeguarding its own equipment, MTC is also installing MMS cameras around its towers and base stations to capture the water levels in the respective areas. The data from these cameras will be fed back to the Emergency Management Unit in the Office of the Prime Minister and the Hydrology Division in the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and to take the necessary.

MTC has also donated five laptops and 3G (wireless internet connection) devices to the EMU to facilitate smooth communication between the nerve centre in Windhoek and the various assessment teams in the flood-stricken areas of Northern Namibia.

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About MTC Namibia

MTC (Mobile Telecommunications Limited) was established in 1995 as a joint venture between Namibia Post and Telecommunications Holdings (NPTH), Telia and Swedfund. During May 2004, NPTH concluded a deal that saw it hold 100 per cent of the shares in MTC by acquiring the 49 per cent held by Telia Overseas AB and Swedfund International AB. NPTH is 100 per cent owned by the Government of the Republic of Namibia. On 1 September 2006 the sale of 34% of MTC shares to Portugal Telecom (PT) was concluded with the management contract also ceded to PT.

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