

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY
ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED



PRESS RELEASE

NOTICE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRE-INSPECTION AND COLLECTION OF ADVANCE ECO LEVY FEES OF THE ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

The Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) is a regulatory body established under the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Act No. 12 of 2003 for regulation of electronic and postal communication services in Tanzania. TCRA's goal is to improve Tanzanians' well-being through effective and efficient regulation of the communications sector that encourages innovation and assures universal access to secure, quality, and affordable communication services.

PURSUANT to section 5(1)(f) of the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority Act (CAP 172 as amended), TCRA has a duty, in carrying out its functions to strive to enhance the welfare of Tanzania society, to take into account the need of protecting and preserving the environment. Further, pursuant to section 83(4) of the Electronic and Postal Communications Act, (CAP 306 R.E 2022), TCRA is mandated to manage the electronic communication equipment end of life processes.

The Electronic and Postal Communications (Electronic Communications Equipment Standards and E-Waste Management) Regulations, 2020 provides for obligations of stakeholders involved in the management of electronic communication equipment end of life processes including manufacturers, importers, recyclers, refurbishers, consumers and bulk consumers. Such obligations include;

- a) ensuring that electronic communication equipment that have reached their end of life are channeled to licensed collectors, recyclers, refurbishers or certified electronic waste treatment facilities;
- b) registering with TCRA the particulars of electronic communications equipment that are imported or manufactured within the country;
- c) engaging in awareness programs in electronic waste management through publications, take back schemes, or any other means of communication;
- d) paying advance eco-levy fees in respect of handling the electronic communication equipment end of life processes;
- e) putting in place formal agreements with licensed collectors, recyclers or refurbishers of electronic communication equipment that have reached their end of life processes;
- f) ensuring that imported electronic communication equipment are not waste (have not reached their end of life);

THEREFORE, TCRA wishes to notify the general public, individuals, and companies wishing to import electronic communication equipment, that from 23rd May 2023, electronic communication equipment imported to the United Republic of Tanzania shall be required to go through an inspection process at the country of export to ensure that they have not reached their end of life. Also, an advance eco levy fee shall be paid for each imported electronic communication equipment in respect of handling their end of life processes as per the requirement of the Electronic and Postal Communications (Electronic Communication Equipment Standards and E-Waste Management) Regulations, 2020.

IN FULFILMENT of this obligation, TCRA has entered into a contract with **M/S BUREAU VERITAS TANZANIA LIMITED** for the provision of inspection services of electronic communication equipment at the country of export to verify that imported equipment are not waste and facilitate the collection of advance eco levy fees.

THUS, from 23rd May 2023, applications for importation of electronic communication equipment shall be filed through <https://verigates.tcra-bureauveritas.co.tz> to allow for declaration of details of equipment to be imported in advance. Once an application is filed, an assessment for advance eco-levy fees shall be made to allow for other processes including inspections.

TCRA further wishes to remind the general public that the importation of electronic communication equipment requires a separate license (Importation License); and imported electronic communication equipment are required to go through a type approval process for conformity and interoperability assessment.

ISSUED BY

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