

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY



PUBLIC NOTICE

SIM CARD REGISTRATION

1. An administrative order was given by the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) that all SIM cards must be registered by their holders between 1st July 2009 and 31st December 2009. The period was extended to 30th June 2010 **with no further extension**. The reasons for introducing SIM card registration have been explained several times, and these include:

- (i) to protect consumers from misuse of communication services
- (ii) to enable consumers to be identified as they use value added services such as mobile banking, mobile money transfer, electronic payments for services such as water, electricity, pay-TV etc
- (iii) to enhance national security
- (iv) to enable network operators to promote "know your customer" (KYC)

2. As we approach 30th June, arrangements with telecommunication networks are such that as from **1st June 2010**, every SIM card bought will only be able to be used to make or receive calls, use the short message service (sms) if it is registered.

3. After 30th June 2010, beginning **00.00hrs 1st July 2010**, any unregistered SIM card will be **locked** for up to 90 days unless it is registered. A locked SIM card can not be used to make or receive calls or use sms. If a locked SIM card is registered within the said 90 days i.e. before 30th September 2010, it will be unlocked, and can then be used. Any locked SIM card not registered by **30th September 2010** will be permanently deleted.

4. Be further reminded that, recently, an appropriate legislation known as the Electronic and Postal Communications Act (EPOCA), 2010, has been passed by Parliament. This legislation makes SIM card registration mandatory as from now onwards.

5. TCRA wishes to thank all Telecommunication operators and subscribers for their cooperation in making the SIM card registration successful.

REGISTER BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!

Issued by

**Director General
Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA)**