

Shaping a Resilient Digital Future

Windhoek, Namibia – October 11, 2023

In a gathering of distinguished experts from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), coupled with representatives from Namibia's telecommunications sector, law enforcement agencies, regulatory bodies, the Ministry of Justice, and the Ministry of Information, Communication, and Technology, a pivotal workshop on cybercrime convened from October 11th to 13th, 2023 in Windhoek.

Mrs. Gladice Pickering, the Executive Director of the Ministry of Justice, addressed the assembly, underlining the transformative significance of this event. She emphasized that the workshop was not just a forum for discussion but an opportunity to collaboratively shape the nation's future in the era of digital transformation.

Namibia, like many nations, grapples with the challenges of cybercrime, a borderless issue that affects countries regardless of their size or resources. In a world of increasing digital interconnection, the risks and stakes are notably high for nations with limited capacities and resources for combating cybercrime, making such workshops crucial for developing a robust response.

The Namibian Cybercrime Workshop focused on five key objectives. Firstly, it aimed to enhance participants' capacity by providing them with globally relevant knowledge and tools tailored to address Namibia's specific challenges and aspirations. Collaborating closely with the Ministry of Information, Communication, and Technology (MICT), the second objective was to develop forward-thinking and resilient cybercrime legislation to safeguard citizens from both current threats and those that may emerge in the future.

Moreover, the workshop reaffirmed Namibia's commitment to fortifying its cybersecurity defences, recognizing the critical role of a secure cyber infrastructure in the nation's economic growth. Enhanced collaboration across various sectors was another key goal, highlighting the importance of a holistic approach to addressing cyber threats. Lastly, the workshop aimed to position Namibia as a prominent voice on the global stage in the development of an international convention on cybercrime, ensuring the nation's unique perspectives and concerns were effectively represented.

With the combined wisdom and expertise of all participants, the workshop embarked on its deliberations, collectively working to ensure that technology remained an ally and that Namibia could stand resilient against ever-evolving cyber threats. The Namibian Cybercrime Workshop marked a significant step toward bolstering the nation's cybersecurity and contributing to the international dialogue on cybercrime.