



PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

DEACTIVATION OF UNREGISTERED SIM CARDS

The Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority (MACRA) wishes to inform the general public that deactivation of unregistered sim cards will be done on 1st October, 2018. In January this year, MACRA directed all mobile service providers to register their subscribers by 30th September, 2018.

The Authority is implementing the mandate as provided for in the Communications Act No. 34 of 2016, section 92 which requires all subscribers of voice telephony services to register their sim cards with their respective service providers or agents and dealers.

Sim card registration is aimed at enhancing security by making it possible for operators and the police to trace details of subscribers engaged in criminal activities including mobile money frauds which have lately been on the rise in the country.

The registration of sim Cards is a common practice in many countries including Tanzania, Mozambique, Kenya, Uganda, South Africa, Madagascar, Mauritius, eSwatini, Zambia, Botswana, and Zimbabwe, where one cannot use a sim card before registration.

MACRA is therefore urging all active subscribers who have not registered their SIM cards to do so by 30th September, 2018 to avoid the inconvenience of being deactivated. Deactivated sim cards will only be re-activated upon submission of relevant information to service providers including proof of identity.

The identity documents are as follows:

1. National identity card

2. Driver's licence
3. Passport
4. Refugee identity card
5. Asylum seeker identity card
6. Voter registration card

The general public is further advised to check if registration was successful by dialling ***122#** for Airtel subscribers and ***277#** for TNM subscribers. This is to avoid the inconvenience of being deactivated on the set deadline.

MANAGEMENT