

PRE-INSPECTION OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT AND COLLECTION OF ECO-LEVY IN THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

The Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) is a Government body established under the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority Act, No. 12 of 2003, to regulate communication in Tanzania.

TCRA has observed an increase in the usage of electronic communication applications and services worldwide, resulting in a significant increase in electronic communication equipment. The hazardous components of electronic communication equipment waste have adverse impacts on the environment and human health if not properly managed. The rapidly increasing volume of discarded electronic communication equipment is posing a serious threat to the environment and human health.

Tanzania is a party to the United Nations' **Basel Convention**, whose overall purpose is to safeguard human health and the environment from the negative impacts of transboundary movements and hazardous waste management, including electronic waste. TCRA is tasked with protecting communication consumers' interests, especially their safety while using electronic equipment. TCRA therefore entered into a contract with **M/S Bureau Veritas Tanzania Limited** to carry out **inspection** processes in the country of export and facilitate the collection of an advance **eco-levy** for all electronic communications equipment imported into the United Republic of Tanzania. The eco-levy programme officially began on **May 23, 2023**.

Imported electronic communications equipment must be inspected and pay advance eco-levy fees in order to handle end-of-life processes and electronic waste management in line with the Basel Convention and as required by the Electronic and Postal Communications (Electronic Communications Equipment Standards and E-Waste Management) Regulations, 2020.

Equipment manufacturers and overseas suppliers of electronic communications equipment are obliged to ensure that electronic communications equipment that are imported into Tanzania complies with the requirements of Regulation 17(1)(a) of the Electronic and Postal Communications (Communications Equipment Standard and E-Waste Management) Regulations, 2020, and the implementation of the eco-levy program. Importers of electronic communications equipment shall ensure that the imported equipment have been paid the eco-levy fees by the manufacturers or overseas suppliers and has obtained an eco-levy certificate.

To apply for the eco-levy certificate for your electronic communications equipment, kindly visit <https://verigates.tcra-bureauaveritas.co.tz/>