



## **Eco-Responsibility**

### **MTN Group's position on Mobiles and Health**

#### **Introduction**

Electric fields are produced by voltage and magnetic fields by electrical current required for all electrical equipment. Information and telecommunication network operators are responsible for ensuring network equipment (especially masts) and mobile phone handsets operate within safe levels of electromagnetic fields (EMF).

#### **MTN's Approach**

- MTN monitors the latest international research and scientific publications on EMF, and complies with the following international standards:
- International Commission on Non-Ionising Radiation Protection (ICNIRP);
- International Telecommunication Union (ITU);
- World Health Organisation (WHO);
- Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE);
- European Union (EU) standards

MTN's mobile handset suppliers are required to provide electrical and electromagnetic safety certification confirmations to the national communications authority of each country in which we operate. These certificates must confirm that the products supplied are compliant with the Electrical Safety Testing Standard EN50191 and the European Standard for Safety of Battery Chargers ENE03352-29 standard, international specifications and country specific regulations. MTN distributes devices directly in its operating areas. MTN branded devices also undergo safety tests such as Electromagnetic Compatibility and Specific Absorption Rate (SAR) tests which are based on the European Telecommunication Standards Institute (ETSI).

MTN's corporate services is responsible for engaging with regulators, members of the public and other stakeholders on matters related to environment and health to ensure that any concerns raised are addressed. Field workers and employees required to conduct extensive mobile telecommunications are more exposed to health and safety, hence they are required to undertake annual compliance training and certification.

#### **Key Principles**

- MTN adheres to environmental certification, authorisations, permits and reporting requirements in each country of operations, in accordance to local legislation and internationally recognised practices.
- We implement and demonstrate sound measures to prevent pollution, reduce biodiversity impacts and minimise generation of solid waste, and air emissions.
- MTN ensures that all applicable laws and regulations related to hazardous materials, chemicals and substances are strictly followed.
- MTN ensures that network masts and devices it distributes directly operate within safe levels of electromagnetic fields (EMF).
- MTN holds its suppliers to the same standards guided by its Supplier Code of Conduct and periodic training.



We also comply with electromagnetic field (EMF) exposure limits set by the international Commission on Non-Ionising Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) and relevant national regulators where applicable, in the countries in which we operate. We also ensure that user equipment supplied directly by MTN, like handsets, complies to the relevant specific absorption rate (SAR) limits in addition to undergoing conformity assessments specific to the country in which they are supplied.

To this end, we maintain an in-house EMF testing facility as an additional step of verification. We take a conservative approach to the use of resources such as paper, plastic, water and other resources through demand reduction, refurbishment, recycling and upcycling. Employee awareness and support is also critical to ensuring that the individual actions to conserve resources result in meaningful outcomes.

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