



# **RADIO 2000 ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REPORT**

**MARCH 2021**

# **2019/2020 ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REPORT**

## **SOUTH AFRICAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION BROADCASTING AS RADIO 2000**

**LICENCE PERIOD : 18 DECEMBER 2018 - 17 DECEMBER 2028**

### **1. PREFACE**

The Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (the Authority) has a statutory mandate in terms of the Constitution<sup>1</sup>, the ICASA Act<sup>2</sup>, the Electronic Communications Act<sup>3</sup> (ECA) and the Broadcasting Act<sup>4</sup> to regulate broadcasting activities in South Africa in the public interest. Among the responsibilities of the Authority is the task to ensure compliance by broadcasting service Licensees with the terms and conditions of their licence and any relevant legislation and/or Regulations.

The purpose of the report is to give an account of Radio 2000's compliance with the terms and conditions as set out in its licence for the 2019/2020 financial year. Aspects of compliance that are measured comprise of Format, Local Content Obligations, General Programming Obligations, Training and Skills Development, Finances, Complaints, South African Music Content Regulations, Regulations Regarding Standard Terms and Conditions, Universal Service and Access Fund (USAF) Regulations, and General Licence Fees Regulations.

### **2. BACKGROUND**

Radio 2000 is an Individual Sound Broadcasting Service Licensee of the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC). The radio station's mandate is to provide a full radio spectrum service in South Africa. In other words, the radio station provides a balanced range of broadcast content such as educational programming, news, sports and content of national interest.

According to the Broadcast Research Council of South Africa (BRC), the listenership figures for the last quarter of the period under review stood at 735 000<sup>5</sup>, a 10% increase from the previous reporting period.

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<sup>1</sup> The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, No 108 of 1996

<sup>2</sup> Act No. 13 of 2000, as amended

<sup>3</sup> Act No. 36 of 2005

<sup>4</sup> Act No. 4 of 1999

<sup>5</sup> <https://brcsa.org.za/brc-ram-listenership-report-jan19-dec19/>

### **3. COMPLIANCE ASSESSMENT**

#### **3.1. Ownership and Control**

Clause 1 of the licence stipulates that:

- 1.1 Name of company/entity: The South African Broadcasting Corporation*
- 1.2 Shareholders: The State: 100%*
- 1.3 Ownership by persons from historically disadvantaged groups: N/A*

There were no changes on the name and shareholding of the Licensee. Radio 2000 forms part of the public service division of the SABC and continues to be fully owned by the State.

**The Licensee complies with clause 1 of its licence.**

#### **3.2. Geographic Coverage Area**

Clause 3 of the Schedule to the licence states that:

*"The coverage area is as defined in the map attached to the radio frequency spectrum licence".*

According to its frequency spectrum licence, Radio 2000 has a national footprint. For the period under review, there were no complaints to the Authority regarding the Licensee's coverage area. The Licensee maintains its coverage area as defined in the frequency spectrum licence.

**The Licensee complies with clause 3 of the Schedule of its licence.**

#### **3.3. Language(s)**

Clause 4 of the Schedule to the service licence states that the language of broadcast is as follows:

*"The principal language is a balanced range of official languages".*

The monitoring exercise confirms that the Licensee has English as its principal language, with some shows making use of other South African languages such as Sepedi and isiZulu.

**The Licensee complies with clause 4 above.**

#### **3.4 Format**

Clause 5.1 of the Schedule to the licence states that:

*"The service authorised by this licence forms part of the public service division of the Licensee".*

According to SABC's Editorial Policy *"The scope of the public service mandate means that the SABC has to provide consistent, relevant, useful and high-quality content, including information and analysis".*

Radio 2000 forms part of the public service stations of the SABC and offers a full-spectrum service to its audience as outlined in the licence. The weekly show *Marawa Sports Worldwide*, airing weekdays between 18:00 – 19:30 is an example of the high-quality content that is relevant, consistent and useful, which the Licensee ascribes to in its Editorial Policy.

Clause 5.2 of the Schedule to the licence states that:

*"The licensed service shall be a facility service in a balanced range of genres (including education, sports, religious programming and music) broadcast in a balanced range of official languages".*

The monitoring exercise found a broad range of topics covered, which align to the themes of sports; music and health news. Various opinions; perspectives and comment forms part of Radio 2000 programming which offers the listener an engaging and informative subjects.

**The Licensee complies with clause 5.1 and 5.2 of the Schedule to its licence.**

### **3.4. Local Content Obligations**

Clause 6 of the schedule to the licence stipulates that:

*"In each licence year, the Licensee shall, within thirty (30) days of the end of the quarter, submit to the Authority written records indicating the extent of:*

*Clause 6.1 different genres; and*

*Clause 6.2 South African Music Content in programme material broadcast in the licensed service during that quarter, in each instance, distinguishing between genres, providing the relevant details in relation to prime time and the period between 05h00 and 23h00 daily ("the South African broadcast period"), and expressing relevant details both as an aggregate in minutes and as a percentage of the total of all such programming material".*

Radio 2000 submitted its quarterly reports for the period under review. The submission was verified during the Authority's monitoring exercise.

**The quarterly submissions indicate compliance by Radio 2000 with the set quotas during the 2019/2020 financial year.**

### **3.5. General programming obligations**

#### **3.5.1. General**

Clause 7.1.1 of the schedule to its licence states that:

*"The licensee shall ensure that its programming adequately reflects the diversity of South Africa's Religions".*

The SABC's editorial policy<sup>6</sup> stipulates that:

*"Religious programmes should take account of regional factors, target audiences, language and cultural preferences, and the devotional needs of specific groups".*

*"The SABC provide faith-based content in a variety of formats including documentaries, magazines and actuality. The aim of these is to encourage comment on matters of national concern, and to introduce people to faiths practised in South Africa and, where appropriate, elsewhere."*

The Licensee, although forming part of the public service division of the SABC, it has the flexibility to cover a wide range of topics with lesser public mandate obligations. It therefore, has a more urban contemporary offering, that has less emphasis on religious content yet appealing to a broader range of listeners.

#### **The Licensee complies with clause 7.1 above.**

Clause 7.1.2 of the licence stipulates that:

*"The Licensee should take responsible steps to provide programming that reflects the cultural and tradition needs of the audience".*

According to the SABC, the radio station is targeting the higher LSM consumers of a mature age and this is reflective in its music selection mainly. Artists such as Selaelo Selota; Khadja Nin; Vusi Mahlasela and Judith Sephuma, are featured in both interviews and Radio 2000's music selection.

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<sup>6</sup> SABC Editorial Policies 2020

**The Licensee complies with clause 7.1.2 above.**

Clause 7.1.3 of the licence stipulates that:

*"The licensee shall during the South African performance period, provide programme material that caters and has due regard for the interests of all sectors of South African society and shall provide programming on health-related issues, gender issues relevant to all age groups".*

During the monitoring exercise, on weekly shows such as *The Inner Circle* and *Kings and Queens*, topics on health; mental awareness and self-empowerment were featured with experts; public figures and motivational guests were interviewed.

**The Licensee complies with clause 7.1.3 above.**

**3.6. Programming for People Living with Disabilities**

Clause 7 of the licence stipulates that:

*"The licensee shall in the provision of the licensed service, ensure that people with disabilities regularly feature and participate in its programme material in accordance with the Integrated Disability Strategy".*

Radio 2000 submitted its annual report in accordance with the Compliance Procedure Manual and Form 7 C speaks to persons with disabilities. The submission was verified during the Authority's monitoring exercise.

Although the submissions indicate compliance by Radio 2000 with the requirements on that form, there are still some challenges which the Licensee identified with regards to access to studios. The Licensee submitted that it is easier to conduct telephonic interviews with persons with disabilities and further stated that it is not always possible to provide access for persons with disabilities due to challenges with "accessibility and transport". Ensuring access to studio facilities is an obligation that must be met by the Licensee, therefore the Authority will continue to monitor compliance with this requirement.

**The Licensee complies with clause 8 of its licence.**

**3.7. Training and Skills developments Obligations**

Clause 9 of the Schedule to the licence states the following:

- "9.1 The licensee must adopt and implement equal opportunity employment practices;*
- 9.2 The Licensee must ensure that its management and staff are representative of South African society and that its human resource policies take into account the development of managerial, production, technical and other skills and expertise, particularly with regard to the historically disadvantaged persons;*
- 9.3 The Licensee shall endeavour to achieve fair and reasonable participation by historically disadvantaged persons with respect to:*
- (a) its management and control structures;*
  - (b) skills development;*
  - (c) enterprise development; and*
  - (d) procurement.*
- 9.4 The Licensee must, within thirty (30) days of the end of each financial year, provide the Authority the written information regarding its compliance with the above requirements".*

The Licensee submitted its Employment Equity and Transformation report for the period under review. The report acknowledges the importance of diversity in the workplace and that employment equity is an imperative business driver. The Licensee implemented various education and awareness campaigns with the intention to create and to maintain a respectful, inclusive and non-discriminatory workplace.

The report shows that the management and staff of the Licensee are a diverse mixture of South African society, including 83 employees living with disabilities. The Licensee further endeavours to ensure that females are well-represented at all occupational roles, especially in decision making positions.

The Licensee, through its Learning and Development department provides for a workplace skills programme in alignment with the needs of the organisation. During the period under review, 87% of the people that were trained were historically disadvantaged persons, with females representing 54,5% of the overall total. The total amount spent on training, for the period under review was R10 332 040. The training included amongst others customer service; effective presentation skills; stress management; office administration and time management.

The report shows the extent to which historically disadvantaged people are represented throughout the organisation. Further, the Licensee has a National employment equity forum that monitors and evaluates the implementation of the Licensee's employment equity objectives.

The Licensee submitted its Employment Equity and Transformation report and its Training and Skills Development plan. And those provide a breakdown of the Licensee's compliance with clause 9 above, for the period under review.

**The Licensee complies with clause 9 of the Schedule to its licence.**

### **3.8. Provision of Audited Financial statements to the Authority**

Clause 10 of the licence stipulates that:

*"The Licensee shall provide the Authority with the audited annual financial statements of the licensed service within six (6) months of the end of the licensee's financial year, provided that the licensee may on good cause apply to the Authority for extension".*

The Licensee submitted its audited annual financial statements. However, the SABC has highlighted that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, work is taking unusually longer to be completed and therefore, the submission of its audited financial statements was delayed and could not be submitted within the regulatory timeframes. The Licensee kept the Authority up to speed on these delays for noting.

**The Licensee complied with clause 10 of its licence.**

## **4. REGULATIONS**

### **4.1. ICASA South African Music Content Regulations**

Regulation 3 (1) of the South African Music Content<sup>7</sup> as published on 23 March 2016 stipulates that:

*"A holder of a public sound broadcasting service licence must ensure that after eighteen (18) months from the date of gazetting of these Regulations, a minimum of 60% increasing to 70% in the following year, of the musical works broadcast in the performance period, consist of South African music and that South African music is spread evenly throughout the performance period."*

The Licensee's submission indicates that the radio station broadcast on average, 72% of SA Music Content. The Authority's monitoring found approximately 72% of SA Music across its

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<sup>7</sup> South African Music Content Regulations



programme line-up. Artists featured on the station's playlist include *Brian Themba; Blondie and Pappa; Vusi Mahlasela, Lira; Vusino; Lesego* and many others.

**The Licensee complies with regulation 3.2 of the South African Music Content Regulations.**

**4.2. Regulations regarding Standard Terms and Conditions for individual Licences**

Regulation 11 (3) of the standard terms and conditions<sup>8</sup> stipulates that:

*"A station must clearly identify itself at intervals of not more than thirty (30) minutes".*

During the period under review, there was no incident violating the above Regulations.

**The Licensee complies with the Standard Terms and Conditions for Individual Licences.**

**4.3. Universal Service and Access Fund Regulations**

Regulation 3 of the USAF Regulations<sup>9</sup> stipulates that:

- (1) *"Every holder of a licence granted in terms of Chapters 3, 4 and/or 9 or converted in terms of Chapter 15 of the Act, must pay an annual contribution of 0.2% of its Annual Turnover to the Fund".*
- (2) *"A BS licensee who has paid an annual contribution to the MDDA must set off that contribution against its USAF Contribution, provided that the MDDA contribution and the USAF contribution against which it is set off are for the same financial year".*

The Licensee submitted confirmation of its annual payment contribution to the MDDA. The submission was made within the regulated timeframes.

**The Licensee complies with the regulations in respect of Universal Service and Access Fund.**

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<sup>8</sup> Regulations regarding the Standard Terms and Conditions for Individual Licensees

<sup>9</sup> Universal Service and Access Fund Regulations

#### **4.4. COMPLAINTS**

Form 12A: Complaints Report of the Compliance Procedure Manual Regulations read with the Code of Conduct for Broadcasters requires that broadcasters complete the form bi-annually in accordance with the Licensees' Financial Year.

The Licensee is a member of the National Association of Broadcasters ("NAB") and complaints in relation to the Code of Conduct by Broadcasters are administered by the Broadcasting Complaints Commission of South Africa ("BCCSA"). No complaints were escalated to the Authority during the period under review.

#### **5. CONCLUSION**

The Licensee complied with its licence terms and conditions and related Regulations that govern public broadcasters for the period under review.

#### **6. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

- 6.1.** Appendix A: Radio 2000's Broadcasting Service Licence;
- 6.2.** Appendix B: Radio 2000's Frequency Spectrum Licence;
- 6.3.** Appendix C: Extract from the Licensee's Editorial Policy;
- 6.4.** Appendix D: Training & Skills Development Report;
- 6.5.** Appendix E: Regulations regarding the standard terms and condition;
- 6.6.** Appendix F: Universal Service and Access Fund Regulations; and
- 6.7.** Appendix G : Proof of SABC's Contribution to USAF

**END**

**March 2021**