



**PROJECT
ISIZWE**
WiFi for Africa

Free WiFi for Africa NPC Trading as Project Isizwe

1st Floor 8 Bird Street

Stellenbosch 7600

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<https://isizwe.org>

3 December 2021

Independent Communications Authority of South Africa

Dr. Ivy Matsepe-Casaburri Building

350 Witch-Hazel Avenue, Eco Point Office Park

Eco Park

Centurion

Attention: Mr. Manyapelo Richard Makgotlho

Per email: rmakgotlho@icasa.org.za

Cc: jdikgale@icasa.org.za

**PROJECT ISIZWE SUBMISSION ON THE INQUIRY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RADIO
FREQUENCY MIGRATION PLAN AND OF THE INTERNATIONAL MOBILE TELECOMMUNICATIONS
ROADMAP**

Introduction

1. Free WiFi for Africa NPC TA Project Isizwe is a South African NGO advocating for and deploying free and subsidized public WiFi zones.
2. Project Isizwe has been in existence since 2013 and deployed the largest free WiFi project in Africa in the Tshwane municipality.
3. Project Isizwe currently operates 15 networks across 8 provinces in South Africa.
4. Project Isizwe currently delivers 60 TB of data a month of free or subsidized WiFi saving over 100 000 citizens of South Africa approximately R150 million a year in data costs.
5. Project Isizwe uses wireless internet service providers who are members of the Wireless Access Providers Association (WAPA) with preference to black owned providers to deliver public WiFi zones

Free Wifi for Africa NPC t/a Project Isizwe Directors: Dr Subithra Moodley-Moore (Chair),
A Knott Craig (Founder), T Genders (Executive), S Briggs (Non-executive)

Registration No: 2013/146023/08

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The importance of the International mobile Telecommunications Roadmap

6. Currently only 9.1% of homes in South Africa have fixed broadband.
7. Those 90.9% reliant only on mobile connection have to pay up to 100 times more for data than those who have fixed broadband (WiFi at home).
8. South Africa currently ranks 111th globally in terms of fixed broadband penetration.
9. South Africa's economy ranks 32nd globally and 92nd in terms of GDP per capita.
10. Equitable connectivity of all citizens is critical to prevent the South African economy from dropping in global ranking.
11. South Africa needs to focus on improving fixed broadband penetration as a matter of urgency to avoid 90% of the citizens missing out on the 4th Industrial revolution.
12. To this end, Project Isizwe advocates that spectrum preference be given to SMME's that roll out fixed broadband for the implementation of the radio frequency migration plan.

Support of WAPA submission

13. WAPA is an industry body that assure legal compliance and a level of quality of members that meet the requirements of Project Isizwe for rolling out further networks.
14. WAPA provides an equal platform for all members to bid on new opportunities developed by Project Isizwe
15. The WAPA operational team provide world class advice and training particularly to black owned SMME's entering the market
16. Project Isizwe hereby support and endorse the WAPA submission for spectrum allocation. A copy of the WAPA Appendix A is attached.

Yours Sincerely

Tim Genders

Commercial Director

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