



**RADIO iGAGASI 99.5  
(PTY) LTD  
ANNUAL  
COMPLIANCE REPORT**

**MARCH 2025**

# **2023/2024 ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REPORT**

## **RADIO iGAGASI 99.5 (PTY) LTD BROADCASTING AS iGAGASI 99.5**

**Licence Period: 17 December 2018 – 16 December 2028**

### **1. PREFACE**

The Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (“Authority”) has a statutory mandate in terms of the Constitution, the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa Act<sup>1</sup> (“ICASA”), the Electronic Communications Act<sup>2</sup> (“ECA”) and the Broadcasting Act<sup>3</sup> to regulate broadcasting activities in South Africa in the public interest. One of the main tasks of the Authority is to monitor compliance by broadcasters with the terms and conditions of their licences, the three Acts and any other relevant legislation and Regulations.

The purpose of the report is to give an account of Radio iGagasi 99.5 (Pty) Ltd (“iGagasi 99.5”/ “the Licensee”)’s compliance for the 2023/2024 financial year. Aspects of compliance measured comprise the geographic coverage, language(s) of broadcast, broadcast content format, training and skills development equity, staff development and employment equity plan, general programming obligations, ownership by individuals from historically disadvantaged groups, Regulations regarding Standard Terms and Conditions for Individual Broadcasting Services, General Licence Fees Regulations, Regulations in respect of the Prescribed Annual Contributions of Licensees to the Universal Service and Access Fund and South African Music Content Regulations.

### **2. BACKGROUND**

iGagasi 99.5 holds Individual Commercial Sound Broadcasting Service (“I-CSBS”) and Radio Frequency Spectrum (“RFS”) licences (collectively referred to as “licences”) for the provision of services to the Durban Metropolitan, Ulundi,

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<sup>1</sup> ICASA Act, 2000 (Act No. 13 of 2000), as amended

<sup>2</sup> Electronic Communications Act, 2005 (Act No. 36 of 2005)

<sup>3</sup> Broadcasting Act, 1999 (Act No. 4 of 1999)

Glencore, Port Shepstone and Greytown in the Province of KwaZulu-Natal. The Authority renewed and issued iGagasi 99.5 with its licences on 17 December 2018.

### **3. COMPLIANCE ASSESSMENT**

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

Clause 1.1 of the service licence provides that:

*"Name of Company/Entity: Radio iGagasi 99.5 (Pty) Ltd."*

The Licensee is Radio iGagasi 99.5 (Pty) Ltd as stipulated in its licences.

**The Licensee complies with clause 1.1 of its service licence.**

Clause 1.2 of the service licence provides that:

*"Shareholders: MRC Media (Pty) Ltd (100%)."*

The Licensee is 100% owned and controlled by MRC Media (Pty) Ltd<sup>4</sup>.

**The Licensee complies with clause 1.2 of its service licence.**

Clause 1.3 of the service licence provides as follows:

*"Ownership held by persons from historically disadvantaged groups:*

<i>Tsiya Radio (Pty) Ltd</i>	<i>41.48%</i>
<i>Kagiso Media Investments (Pty) Ltd ("LWI")</i>	<i>14.39%</i>
<i>Victory Parade Trading 55 (Pty) Ltd</i>	<i>8.69%"</i>

The equity ownership held by historically disadvantaged groups (HDGs) in the Licensee has not changed. It remains at 65%.

**The Licensee complies with clause 1.3 of its service licence.**

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

Clause 3 of the schedule to the service licence stipulates that the geographic coverage area is:

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<sup>4</sup> Gagasi FM - ICASA Report Mar23 – Feb24

*"Durban Metropolitan, Port Shepstone, Ulundi, Glencore and Greytown as per the technical specifications attached to the Licensee's radio frequency spectrum licence."*

The Licensee confirms that the geographic coverage area remains as defined and specified in its licences<sup>5</sup>.

**The Licensee complies with clause 3 of the schedule to its service licence.**

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

Clause 4 of the schedule to the service licence states that:

*"Principal languages*

*4.1 English - 50%; and*

*4.2 isiZulu - 50%."*

The monitoring exercise confirmed that the Licensee broadcasts interchangeably in English and isiZulu and there is proportional representation of both languages. The frequency in broadcasting in both languages is demonstrated when presenters converse among themselves and with guests during broadcasts; news, weather, traffic and sport are read in English and isiZulu and the Licensee identifies itself in both languages of broadcast. Further, comments and messages posted by listeners on the Licensee's social media platforms and are read out during broadcasts are a mix of isiZulu and English.

**The Licensee complies with clause 4 of the schedule to its service licence.**

### **3.4. Format**

Clause 5 of the schedule to the service licence provides as follows:

*"The Licensee shall have a programming format of music in an adult contemporary jazz format."*

The monitoring exercise confirmed that the Licensee offers an adult contemporary jazz playlist ("popular music") that includes, Rhythm and Blues with Rock influences, Soul, Pop, Gospel and Easy Listening.

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<sup>5</sup> Gagasi FM - ICASA Report Mar23 - Feb24

The following artists were featured: Bebe and Cece Winans "Up Where We Belong", Swazi Dlamini "Ungu Jehova Igama Lakho", Mondli Ngcobo "Inkanyezi", T.I. "Live In The Sky", Israel Houghton and New Breed "It's Not Over", Angie Stone, Beyonce and Walter Williams "He Still Loves Me", Bruno Mars "When I Was Your Man", Nomfundo Moh "Soft Life" and many more.

**The Licensee complies with clause 5 of the schedule to its service licence.**

#### **4. GENERAL PROGRAMMING OBLIGATIONS**

Clause 6.1 of the schedule to the service licence stipulates that:

*"The Licensee shall broadcast a minimum of thirty (30) minutes of news per day between 05h00 and 23h00."*

The Authority's monitoring exercise confirmed that iGagasi 99.5 broadcasts news bulletins on top of the hour from 06h00 to 18h00 on weekdays: at 07h00, 09h00, 11h00, 13h00 and 17h00 on Saturdays and Sundays. Each news bulletin is averaging between four (4) and six (6) minutes. The monitoring exercise also determined that during some news bulletins, there are live crossings to a reporter who is interviewing a public representative (Political party representative, Councilor, Mayor, Member of the Provincial Legislature) and the live crossings lengthen the news bulletins between six (6) and eight (8) minutes. On average, the Licensee broadcasts fifty-four (54) minutes of news on weekdays and over thirty (30) minutes of news on weekends.

The following are some of the news items monitored:

- *"Ithimba elibhekene nezokuphepha I National Joints Operational Intelligence Structure lithi licolisekile ngentlelo elinazo zokuqinisa ezokuphepha namhlanje e City Hall e Kapa lapho u mongameli u Cyril Ramaphosa ezokuthula inkulumo yakhe ebhekiswe esizweni I SONA".*
- *"Union federation Safdu says it is deeply troubled by the latest fuel price hike potentially adding financial strain on motorists and commuters. According to the federation the 75 cents per litre increase on both grades of petrol and 73 cents per litre in diesel is expected to compound the*

*challenges faced by households already battling with high living costs”;  
and*

- *"I Mayor yase Madlangeni enyakatho nesifundazwe u Mzwakhe Buthelezi uthi okosoqholweni kulomkhandlo kukusebenzisana nezimboni ezizimele nezinesifiso sokuba yingxenye ekukhuliseni komnotho walelidolopha."*

**The Licensee complies with clause 6.1 of the schedule to its service licence.**

Clause 6.2 of the schedule to the service licence states that:

*"Should the Licensee source news material from a source other than itself the source(s) thereof shall be disclosed during the news broadcast."*

The Authority's monitoring exercise confirmed the Licensee does disclose the source(s) of news material acquired elsewhere. The Licensee reported sources such as eNCA (channel 403), SABC (channel 404), NewZroom Afrika (channel 405), IOL News, BBC News, Bulletin and field reporters and freelancers for Gagasi FM News.

**The Licensee complies with clause 6.2 of the schedule to its service licence.**

Clause 6.3 of the schedule to the service licence provides that:

*"The Licensee shall broadcast news for an average of six (6) minutes every hour between 06h00 and 09h00 on all weekday mornings. News shall be broadcast in English and isiZulu."*

The monitoring exercise confirmed that between 06h00 and 09h00, the Licensee broadcasts six (6) minute news bulletins broken down into over five (5) minutes on the hour and a thirty (30) second headline. The Licensee broadcasts news in both English and isiZulu.

**The Licensee complies with clause 6.3 of the schedule to its service licence.**

Clause 6.4 of the schedule to the service licence stipulates that:

*"In compiling news and information programmes, the Licensee shall reflect on news from the Continent."*

The Licensee broadcasts news and information from predominantly South Africa and then covers newsworthy stories from the rest of the African Continent. Below is one of the news items monitored:

- *"The Azanian's People Organisation is calling for a clean audit and disclosure of South African individuals and entities with commercial or business interests in the Democratic Republic of Congo. This is to determine what influence they may have in South Africa's involvement in the war in that country by sending South African soldiers to that country".*

**The Licensee complies with clause 6.4 of the schedule to its service licence.**

## **5. TRAINING AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT OBLIGATIONS**

Clause 7.1 of the schedule to the service licence stipulates that:

*"The Licensee shall put particular emphasis on training and development of staff from historically disadvantaged groups."*

The Licensee's submission for the period under review indicates that, training and development of staff was in respect of people from HDGs. Training was undertaken in various disciplines such as Media Studies, news gathering and production, technical, sales, marketing, advertising, Protection of Personal Information (POPI) and business strategy<sup>6</sup>.

**The Licensee complies with clause 7.1 of the schedule to its service licence.**

Clause 7.2 of the schedule to the service licence provides as follows:

*"The Licensee shall establish an employee training programme and shall spend a minimum of R500 000 (five hundred thousand Rand) over the licence period thereon."*

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<sup>6</sup> Gagasi FM - ICASA Report Mar23 – Feb24

The Licensee reported<sup>7</sup>, that for the year under review it has spent six hundred and thousand two hundred and thirty-two Rands (R600 232.00) on training.

**The Licensee complies with clause 7.2 of the schedule to its service licence.**

Clause 7.3 of the schedule to the service licence stipulates that:

*"The Licensee shall actively pursue the appointment of more women on-air presenters."*

According to the Licensee's submission, for the period under review there are twenty-one (21) male and seven (7) female on-air presenters.

**The Licensee complies with clause 7.3 of the schedule to its service licence.**

Clause 7.4 of the schedule to the service licence provides for:

*"The Licensee shall regularly receive and train interns and students from tertiary institutions across South Africa."*

During the period under review, the Licensee received and trained two (2) interns from historically disadvantaged groups.

**The Licensee complies with clause 7.4 of the schedule to its service licence.**

## **6. REGULATIONS**

### **6.1. ICASA South African Music Content Regulations, 2016**

Regulation 3(2) of the ICASA South African Music Content Regulations, as published in *Government Gazette* No. 39844 dated, 23 March 2016, stipulates that:

*"A holder of a commercial sound broadcasting service licence must ensure that after eighteen (18) months from the date of gazetting these Regulations, a minimum of 35% of the musical works broadcast in the performance period,*

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<sup>7</sup> Gagasi FM - ICASA Report Mar23 – Feb24

*consists of South African music and that such South African music is spread evenly throughout the performance period."*

The Authority's monitoring exercise confirmed that on any given day, the Licensee's playlist includes on average 70% South African music during the performance period. The music genres range from House, Classic Soul, Afro Pop, Gospel, Kwaito and Rhythm and Blues.

**The Licensee complies with the ICASA South African Music Content Regulations.**

**6.2. Regulations on Standard Terms and Conditions for Individual Broadcasting Services, 2010<sup>8</sup> as amended.**

No areas of non-compliance with the Regulations above were identified during the period under review.

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

**6.3. Universal Service and Access Fund Regulations, 2011**

Regulation 3(1) of the Regulations in respect of the Prescribed Annual Contributions of Licensees to the Universal Service and Access Fund ("USAF") as published in the *Government Gazette* No. 34010 on 10 February 2011, provides that:

*"Every holder of the licence granted in terms of Chapter 3, 4 and/or 9 or converted in terms of Chapter 15 of the Act, must pay an annual contribution of 0.2% of the annual turnover, to the Fund."*

Further, Regulation 3(2) provides that:

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<sup>8</sup> Standard Terms and Conditions for Individual Broadcasting Services, 2010 as published in *Government*

*Gazette* No. 33294 dated, 14 June 2010 as amended.

*"A BS Licensee who has paid an annual contribution to the Media Development and Diversity Agency (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 of the same financial year."*

The Licensee has paid its USAF contribution as required by Regulations 3(1) and 3(2) by 30 August 2024 as required.

**The Licensee complies with regulations 3(1) and 3(2) of the Regulations in respect of the Prescribed Annual Contributions of Licensees to the Universal Service and Access Fund.**

#### **6.4. ICASA General Licence Fees Regulations, 2012<sup>9</sup>**

Schedule 2 of the General Licence Fees Regulations provides for Individual Commercial Broadcasting Service Licensees to pay annually to the Authority a licence fee of between 0.15% to 0.35% of its licensed revenue (revenue from its licensed services).

Schedule 3(2) of the General Licence Fees Regulations provides that:

*"All licence holders must submit within six (6) months of their financial year end:*

- a) audited Annual Financial Statements, or;*
- b) financial statements signed by the accounting officer of the Licensee where the Licensee is not legally obliged to provide audited financial statements."*

Schedule 3(6) of the General Licence Fees Regulations provides that:

*"All payments in respect of Annual Licence Fees are due annually."*

The Licensee has submitted its audited Annual Financial Statements and has paid the annual licence fees by 30 August 2024 as required.

**The Licensee complies with the ICASA General Licence Fees Regulations.**

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<sup>9</sup> General Licence Fees Regulations, 2012 as published in *Government Gazette* No. 36323 dated, 28

March 2013.

## **6.5. ICASA Compliance Procedure Manual Regulations, 2011**

The Licensee is required in terms of the Compliance Procedure Manual Regulations as published in the *Government Gazette* No. 34863 dated, 15 December 2011 to submit a Form 12A which reports on all complaints received during the financial year under review. According to the Licensee's submission, Gagasi FM did not receive complaints during the period under review.

### **The Licensee complies with the ICASA Compliance Procedure Manual Regulations**

## **7. CONCLUSION**

For the 2023/2024 financial year, the Licensee has fully complied with all its I-CSBS licence terms and conditions and applicable Regulations.

## **8. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**Appendix A:** Radio iGagasi 99.5 (Pty) Ltd I-CSBS licence and RFS licence.

**Appendix B:** ICASA Report March 23 – February 24.

**Appendix C:** Reconciliation of Payments (USAF & GLF);

**Appendix D:** ICASA South African Music Content Regulations, 2016;

**Appendix E:** Regulations on Standard Terms and Conditions for Individual Broadcasting Services, 2010 as amended;

**Appendix F:** USAF Regulations, 2011;

**Appendix G:** ICASA General License Fees Regulations, 2012; and

**Appendix H:** ICASA Compliance Procedure Manual Regulations, 2011.

**END**