



11/07/2025

Chairperson: Signal Distribution Council Committee
Independent Communications Authority of South Africa
350 Witch-Hazel Avenue
Eco Point Office Park
Eco Park, Centurion

By email: signaldistribution@icasa.org.za

Dear, Chairperson

RE: DRAFT SIGNAL DISTRIBUTION SERVICES REGULATIONS, 2025

1. Introduction

On 8 May 2025, the Authority published in Government Gazette Notice Number 52622 the Draft Signal Distribution Service Regulations 2025. In October 2024, the Authority published the findings of the market inquiry it carried out back in September 2021 and which culminated in a Discussion Document and Public Hearings held in August 2022. The SABC participated in all the previous processes which took place in this regard and wishes to register that it still stands by all submissions made previously with respect to Signal Distribution Inquiries and Wholesale Transmission.

In the published Findings Document, the Authority undertook to publish pro-competitive regulations. The SABC welcomes this publication as the Authority's attempt at remedying the findings and is pleased for this opportunity to make these written submissions. We further wish to acknowledge the positive progress made on the outcome of previous written submissions and oral presentations and wish to restate the concerns we have about the tariff development process.

The findings of the aforementioned inquiry were as follows:

- Sentech has significant market power and that there is ineffective competition in the following markets:
 - The market for the provision of terrestrial signal distribution services for television,
 - The market for the provision of terrestrial signal distribution services for FM radio; and
 - The market for the provision of terrestrial signal distribution services for AM radio.

2. The Submissions

In general, the draft regulations addresses the concerns that the SABC previously raised in its submissions and oral presentations to the Authority in the related processes that took place. We would like to highlight these specific issues as presented in the Draft Regulations:

2.1 Protection of Sensitive Information in Agreements

The SABC calls for a provisions for the confidentiality of sensitive information which may form part of the agreements Reference Offer of Tariffs to be published and submitted to the Authority

2.2 The monitoring and investigation aspect by ICASA

The SABC welcomes the proposed transparency with respect to the publishing of Sentech's tariffs, however equally begs the Authority to **specify timelines for** the monitoring and investigation process to avert delays in finalising contracts and agreements between Sentech and its clients

3. Conclusion

We are pleased that The Authority considered and addressed concerns that we previously raised on Sentech's anti-competitive behaviour and lack of transparency on signal distribution costs. The Authority's attempts at addressing these concerns is highly commended and appreciated.

Sincerely,



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