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GENERAL NOTICE

Independent Communications Authority of South Africa

General Notice

GENERAL NOTICE

NOTICE 700 OF 2015



Independent Communications Authority of South Africa Pinmill Farm, 164 Katherine Street, Sandton Private Bag X10002, Sandton, 2146

GENERAL NOTICE -

PUBLICATION OF APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF ACQUISITION OF WIRELESS BUSINESS SOLUTIONS HOLDINGS (PTY) LTD BY MULTISOURCE (PTY) LTD

- The Independent Communications Authority of South Africa ("the Authority") was established in terms of section 2 of the Independent Communications Authority Act, 13 of 2000 ("ICASA Act"), as amended, with an objective to, amongst others:
 - 1.1 regulate ownership and control of licences;
 - 1.2 ensure efficient assignment and use of radio frequency spectrum;
 - 1.3 promote competition within the ICT;
 - 1.4 ensure access to electronic communications facilities;
 - 1.5 promote the empowerment of historically disadvantaged persons; and
 - 1.6 promote the universal provision of electronic communications networks and electronic communications services.
- On 08 June 2015, the Authority received an Application for the acquisition of Wireless Business Solutions Holdings (WBSH) (Pty) Ltd by Multisource (Pty) Ltd (Multisource). In terms of the transaction - :
 - a) Multisource will acquire the entire share capital of WBSH;
 - b) WBSH is a holding company of the subsidiary, Wireless Business Solutions (Pty) Ltd (WBS);
 - c) WBS will remain the wholly owned subsidiary of WBSH; and
 - *d)* The subsidiary will remain the licence holder of all licences issued to it by the Authority.
- 3. The Application is made in terms of sections 13 and 31 (2A) of the Electronic Communications Act, 36 of 2005 ("ECA"), as amended. Section 13 (1) provides as follows: "An individual licence may not be let, sub-let, assigned, ceded or in any way transferred, and the control of an individual licence may

not be assigned, ceded or in any way transferred, to any other person without the prior written permission of the Authority."

- 4. Section 31 (2A) provides as follows:"A radio frequency spectrum licence may not be assigned, ceded or in any way transferred, and the control of a radio frequency spectrum licence may not be assigned, ceded or in any way transferred, to any other person without the prior written permission of the Authority".
- 5. The Authority will consider the Application in line with the objectives mentioned above. In addition, the Authority acknowledges that this Application comes at a time in the sector where there are a number of transactions taking place, including the:
 - a. proposed acquisition of Neotel (Pty) Ltd by Vodacom SA (Pty) Ltd, which the Authority has approved subject to conditions;
 - b. proposed Telkom/MTN RAN sharing agreement before the Competition Commission; and
 - c. the acquisition of Business Connexion Group (BCG) by Telkom State Owned Company, which is also before the Competition Commission.
- 6. **Therefore,** the Authority calls upon any interested person, to submit written representations to the Application by WBSH for the approval of the acquisition by Multisource, within twenty one (21) days from date of publication of this notice in the *Gazette*.
- 7. Further, the Application, relevant schedule and any representations received pursuant thereto will be made available and open for inspection by interested parties in the Authority's website and library, during office hours.
- 8. Any person who may submit written submissions must indicate whether they require an opportunity to make oral representations in the event the Authority may hold public hearings.
- 9. Any written representations, response and related correspondence in terms hereof, must be directed to:

The Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA)

FOR ATTENTION: Ms Refiloe Motsoeneng

Project Manager: Market Consolidations

Block A, Pinmill Farm

164 Katherine Street Sandton Or sent by fax to no: 011 566 3214 Or sent by e-mail to: <u>RMotsoeneng@icasa.org.za</u> and <u>MarketConsolidations@icasa.org.za</u>

10. Any person who may submit written representations in terms hereof must at the time of submission, furnish proof to the satisfaction of the Authority that a copy of the written representations has been delivered by hand as follows:

FOR ATTENTION: Mr David Hilewitz

3012A William Nicol Drive
Bryanston, 2021
Or send by <u>registered post</u>: P O Box 651921, Benmore, 2010.
Or send by <u>fax no</u>.: 086 503-9111
Or send via <u>e-mail</u>: <u>davidh@bli.co.za</u>

11. WBSH has a right to respond in writing to any written representations any interested person may submit on the Application. WBSH therefore must submit the written response to the Authority within forty two (42) working days of the date of publication of this notice in the *Gazette*. WBSH must, at the time of submission of the written response, furnish proof to the Authority's satisfaction that it has delivered a copy of the response by hand, or has sent a copy of the response by registered mail or by facsimile or by email to the relevant person having made the written representations.

Rubben Mohlaloga **Acting Chairperson**

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