From: Kyle
To: satlicensing

Subject: Support for Proposed Licensing Framework for Satellite Services

Date: Saturday, 02 November 2024 14:20:06

Dear Mr. Mchunu,

I am reaching out to express my support for the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa's (ICASA) proposed licensing framework for satellite services as outlined in the recent consultation notice. I believe that this regulatory initiative will be instrumental in modernizing South Africa's satellite communications landscape, aligning it with global best practices, and addressing critical connectivity gaps within the nation.

The proposed framework's focus on establishing transparent licensing and operational procedures, particularly for satellite user terminals and gateway earth stations, aligns well with the evolving needs of South African businesses and communities. By introducing policies that reduce regulatory complexity, streamline access to international satellite operators, and enable the use of high-frequency bands, this initiative has the potential to enhance affordable connectivity, especially in underserved regions.

In particular, I commend the emphasis on revisiting spectrum fees. Adopting a high-throughput satellite factor (HTSF) approach, as outlined, will make it economically viable for operators to expand services in areas where connectivity remains a challenge. The proposed administrative registry of authorized space stations will also enhance regulatory certainty while promoting a competitive and diverse satellite services market.

Please let me know if further input would be helpful as ICASA moves forward. I appreciate the Authority's vision for an inclusive, forward-looking satellite services landscape in South Africa and are eager to support this framework in any way possible.

Kind Regards,

Kyle Spence +27 74 147 8459

Resident of the City of Johannesburg with interests in rural Kwa-Zulu Natal