



## **IMPLEMENTATION OF PRECAUTIONS AGAINST COVID-19**

Dear Stakeholder

With several confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the Republic, President Cyril Ramaphosa on 15 March 2020, declared a State of National Disaster and announced several immediate measures to be undertaken to prevent the spread of the virus and to allow for immediate management of those already affected.

Considering these developments and the responsibility to ensure the wellbeing of all staff members and stakeholders, the Competition Commission (the Commission) is obliged to comply with the directive from government and is taking active steps to minimise social contact.

The Commission is thus suspending all external meetings with stakeholders until further notice. Stakeholder workshops and engagements that have already been scheduled relating to, amongst others, market inquiries and draft guidelines will be postponed indefinitely. Any critical engagements in this regard may be arranged via teleconference or videoconference services.

Our offices will remain operationally open during this period to receive case filings. We have implemented the precautionary measures to protect frontline staff and stakeholders that will be processing the filings. We, however, encourage stakeholders to make use of email for filings or to alternatively share the necessary documents via file transfer portals.

The Commission will continue to take proactive measures to monitor and update stakeholders on the developments as and when we receive further information and, in the event that the government issues further directives in this regard.

The Commission wishes all stakeholders well during these difficult times and appeals for cooperation from stakeholders to heed the call from government to stay safe and minimise the spread of the pandemic.

Issued by the Competition Commission

18 March 2020