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## GENERAL NOTICE

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### NOTICE 720 OF 2004



### NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF THE DISCUSSION PAPER ON SUBSCRIPTION BROADCASTING

The Independent Communications Authority of South Africa ("the Authority") hereby publishes its Discussion Paper on Subscription Broadcasting. This is in accordance with Section 28 of the Independent Broadcasting Authority Act, Act No. 153 of 1993 ("IBA Act") which provides that the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa ("the Authority") may from time to time conduct an inquiry into any matter relevant to the achievement and application of the principles of broadcasting as enunciated in section 2 of the Act.

The purpose of the Discussion Paper is to generate comment from all stakeholders on the introduction of a regulatory framework for subscription broadcasting in South Africa. The primary objective of the inquiry is to:

- solicit public participation and input in developing the regulatory framework for subscription broadcasting in South Africa; and
- generate discussion on the appropriate policy and licensing framework for existing subscription broadcasting services and the introduction of new entrants to subscription broadcasting markets.

The Discussion Paper is divided into four sections. Section A details the guiding policy principles and legislative framework that need to be taken into account for the regulation of subscription broadcasting in South Africa. Section B sets out the background of subscription broadcasting. Section C describes the various factors that may need to be considered when approaching the licensing and regulation of subscription broadcasting, and finally, Section D sets out the expected outcomes of this inquiry.

The Authority invites interested parties, stakeholders and the public to respond to the issues and questions raised in the Discussion Paper. Submissions will be public documents and should be provided to the Authority in both electronic and hard copy formats. Electronic copies will facilitate the posting of submissions on the Authority's website (<http://www.icasa.org.za>). All the submissions received by the Authority will be posted on its website.

Interested parties and stakeholders should indicate when they lodge their submission, if they do not wish to have all or part of the submission made publicly available. Reasons why the Authority should restrict access to the material should be provided with the submission, and such requests may or may not be granted.

Written submissions should be sent to:

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Any interested person or organisation who submits written representations should indicate whether they require an opportunity to make oral presentation at the hearings. The closing date for the receipt of representations is **7 June 2004 at 16h30**.

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