MEDIA RELEASE

20 December 2007

UPDATE ON LICENCE CONVERSION PROCESS

JOHANNESBURG -The Authority would like to thank all who have cooperated with the licence Conversion Committee in order to advance the licence conversion process.

The standard terms and conditions applicable to individual and class licences have been finalised in Government Gazettes No. 30530 and No. 30512 respectively. The licence exemption regulations will be finalised in January 2008.

The licence fees regulations will be finalised once the Authority has completed all the necessary consultations and required research. The finalisation of the licence fees regulations will then allow the Authority to proceed with publication of the finalized procedures and process regulations.

The Authority is currently drafting the specific terms and conditions applicable to individual licensees. Once they have been drafted they will be sent to those who are entitled to an individual licence for comment, before they are published for public comment and input.

Further, the Authority has carefully considered all the submissions received in response to Government Gazettes No. 30438 and No. 30352, and has decided that VANs will in the first instance be converted to ECS and that a competitive process will be followed in respect of granting VANS the right to acquire ECNS as per the Ministerial Directive. An Invitation To Apply (ITA) to this effect will be issued in January 2008.

P Mashile **(Chairperson)**, T Cohen, ZR Masiza, R Nkuna, BB Ntombela, JCW Van Rooyen (SC), MM Socikwa, MM Zokwe (**Councillors),** BK Motlana (**CEO)**

Consequently a separate matrix for VANS (ECNS applications) will be published once interested parties have responded to the ITA and submissions have been evaluated. The Authority will hold public hearings in March 2008 in order to fast track this process

Meanwhile, the Authority will shortly publish a conversion matrix for each of the following categories of licences:

- Broadcasting
- Telecommunications
- VANS (Class and Individual ECS)

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