



*competition* **commission**  
south africa

## **Media Statement**

**For Immediate Release**

**06 April 2020**

### **COMMISSION EXTENDS THE CLOSING DATES FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORT MARKET INQUIRY AND AUTOMOTIVE GUIDELINES SUBMISSIONS**

Following the declaration of national state of disaster, the 21 Day Lockdown and the related measures announced by President Ramaphosa and the cabinet with regard to containment of Covid 19 pandemic, the Commission scale down its operations significantly.

Unsurprisingly, this has had considerable impact on the operations and deadlines of various submissions. In February, the Commission released the Market Inquiry Into the land-based Public Passenger Transport (Market Inquiry) provisional report with findings and recommendations for public comment.

The Commission initiated the Market Inquiry because it has reason to believe that there are features of the sector that prevent, distort or restrict competition. The Terms of Reference (“ToR”) and timeframes were set out in the Government Gazette (No. 40837) in May 2017. The Market Inquiry officially commenced in June 2017 and it was expected to be completed by **31 March 2020** but this has been extended to **30 June 2020**.

Having regard to the comments, submissions and information gathered by the Market Inquiry to date, and other intervening factors, the Commission decided to amend the completion date in terms of the Competition Act. This is to allow for enough time for engagement on proposed recommendations.

Stakeholders that have not made submissions are encouraged to do so urgently by **April 16** so that their views are considered. Submissions can be directed at [ppt@compcom.co.za](mailto:ppt@compcom.co.za).

**Meanwhile**, the Commission issued for public comments in the Government Gazette (No 43015) draft Guidelines for Competition in the South African Automotive Aftermarket Industry in February. The Commission conducted extensive consultation and advocacy work in the automotive aftermarket industry following concerns of possible anti-competitive conduct since 2017. The Guidelines, prepared in terms Competition Act, provide practical guidance to firms in the automotive sector on conduct that may be anti-competitive (and how to mitigate this) and to encourage competition through greater participation of small businesses as well as historically disadvantaged groups.

The Commission invites automotive industry stakeholders (especially small and independent repairers and maintenance service providers), regulators, consumers and any other interested party to submit their views and comments on the draft guidelines.

The new deadline to provide comments is **30 June 2020, 17:00 (SA time)**. Written comments must be submitted to [Advocacy@compcom.co.za](mailto:Advocacy@compcom.co.za). For enquiries contact Mr Siphon Mtombeni at (012) 394 3378.

**[ENDS]**

**Issued by:**

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