



competition commission
south africa

Media Statement

For Immediate Release

11 October 2021

TOURVEST, SIYAZISIZA TRUST FOUND GUILTY OF COLLUSIVE TENDERING

The Competition Commission of South Africa (Commission) has welcomed the decision by the Competition Tribunal (Tribunal) in which Tourvest Holdings (Pty) Ltd (“Tourvest”) and the Siyazisiza Trust were found guilty of collusive tendering or price fixing, in contravention of section 4(1)(b)(iii) of the Competition Act 89 of 1998 as amended.

The contravention related to bid rigging in respect of a tender issued by Airports Company South Africa (ACSA) in February 2013, for leasing three opportunities of arts, crafts, and curio retail spaces at OR Tambo International Airport for a period of five years. Tourvest and the Siyazisiza Trust concluded a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) before submitting separate bids for one of the three tenders issued by ACSA. In terms of the MOU the respondents agreed to cooperate, as opposed to competing, when bidding for one of the three tenders known as “opportunity 3”.

On 25 April 2014, the Commission received a collusive tendering complaint against Tourvest and the Siyazisiza Trust for allegedly colluding when bidding tender for “opportunity 3”. The Commission’s investigation found that the MOU concluded by the respondents in respect of the “opportunity 3” constituted a collusive agreement which contravened section 4(1)(b)(iii) of the Competition Act 89 of 1998 as amended.

Tourvest conducts business in the tourism industry and operates five arts, crafts and curio retail stores, and two branded homeware stores in the international departures’ terminal section of the OR Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg. Tourvest has been operating at airports since 1993. Siyazisiza Trust is a broad-based craft enterprise development agency and works with

around 400 rural crafters. Siyazisiza Trust sells the crafters' products to retailers, government entities, corporate clients within and beyond South Africa.

Tourvest was ordered to pay an administrative penalty of **R9, 181, 073 (Nine million, one hundred and eighty one thousand, and seventy three Rands)** within 30 days from the date of issuing the order. The Tribunal also found guilty the Siyazisiza Trust but did not sanction an administrative penalty against them.

[ENDS]

Issued by:

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