



MERGER NOTICE NO 04: 2022

THE PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF 100% OF THE ISSUED SHARE CAPITAL IN CROC 684 (PTY) LTD t/a BBi and wireless@home BY PARATUS TELECOMMUNICATIONS (PTY) LTD

Pursuant to section 49 (1) of the Competition Act 2018, the Competition and Consumer Authority ("the Authority") has received a merger notification for the proposed acquisition of 100% of the issued share capital in Croc 684 (Pty) Ltd t/a BBi and wireless@home ("Croc 684" or "Target Enterprise") by Paratus Telecommunications (Pty) Ltd ("Paratus" or "Acquiring Enterprise").

The Acquiring Enterprise, Paratus, is a limited liability company incorporated in accordance with the Laws of Botswana. It operates in six Southern African countries being: South Africa, Angola, Namibia, Zambia, Mozambique and Botswana and provides services in over 20 further markets via satellite. The Acquiring Enterprise is submitted to provide a wholly owned, independent, protected and diverse network in Botswana, which plays a strategic role in connecting the Southern African region. In Botswana, Paratus is licensed to provide services such as internet, voice Solutions and PBX, Hosted Services, Structured cabling, Software Defined Wide Area Network (SD-WAN), Multiprotocol label switching (MPLS), and Fiber connectivity. The shareholders of the Acquiring Enterprise are: Paratus Group Holdings Limited (55%) ("Paratus Group"); and The Netcollective (Pty) Ltd (45%) ("The Netcollective"). The Paratus Group directly and indirectly controls entities in various countries being: Namibia, Mauritius, Zambia, Angola, Namibia, Mozambique, and South Africa. On the other hand, The Netcollective does not have any operations in the relevant market. The directors of the Acquiring Enterprise are: Shawn Stephan Bruwer; Schalk Leipoldt Van Zyl Erasmus; and Bartholomeus Roelof Jacobus Harmse (all Namibians).

The Target Enterprise, Croc 684, is a limited liability company incorporated in accordance with the Laws of Botswana. It is an internet service provider of broadband service and offers internet connections at home and in the corporate world. Specifically, Croc 684 provides fibre connection, wireless connections; satellite connection (internet and Data Service provided over a satellite connection), and Google Apps. The shareholders of Croc 684 are Sean McCormick; Christoffel Stephanus Viljoen; Chris Edward Murray; Victor Senye; Joe Matthew Lalonde; Garth Warrick Armstrong. The Target Enterprise' directly and indirectly controls the following active enterprises in Botswana:

- a) lot Botswana (Pty) Ltd – This company trades as Sigfox, which is involved in building wireless networks to connect low and-power objects such as electricity meters and smart meters, which need to be continuously on and emitting of data;
- b) Croc. K (Pty) Ltd – a Cabling and IT infrastructure and distribution company.

It is noted that the companies listed above do not fall within the proposed transaction and therefore will not be acquired by the Acquiring Enterprise. The directors of Croc 684 are: Sean McCormick; Christoffel Stephanus Viljoen; and Charles Edward Murray (all South Africans).

According to section 50(3), of the Competition Act 2018, "any person, including a third party not a party to the proposed merger, may voluntarily submit to the inspector or the Authority any document, affidavit, statement or other relevant information in respect of a proposed merger." The Competition and Consumer Authority therefore seeks any stakeholder views for or against the proposed merger, which may be sent within 10 days from date of this publication to the following address:

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