



tel: +27 (12) 432 1300
info Centre: 086 00 65383
web: www.nlcsa.org.za

NATIONAL LOTTERIES COMMISSION
a member of **the dti** group

National Lotteries Commission (NLC)
P O Box 1556
Brooklyn Square 0083, Pretoria

NLC Response to Concerns of Religious Groups Around the Use and Display of the 'Lotto Funded' logo

6 March 2017

For immediate release

Pretoria - It has come to the attention of the National Lotteries Commission (NLC) that a number of athletics clubs in the Western Cape Province have raised concern on religious grounds around the display of the NLC *Lotto Funded* logo on racing licences at events organised by Athletics South Africa (ASA).

ASA is a beneficiary of the NLC. Over the years they have applied for and received funding in support of local race events.

The application and display of the NLC Logo is a requirement stipulated in the Grant Agreement with Athletics South Africa. The refusal by the beneficiary (ASA) to display the logo would be a violation of the terms and conditions of the Grant Agreement.

The NLC does not fund religious organisations. As per the Lotteries Act No 57 of 1997 (as amended), funding is directed at qualifying Non-profit/governmental organisations (NPOs/NGOs) Section-21 companies, Public Benefit Trusts and Schools.

In this case, the affected athletics clubs taking part in the activities of ASA are not direct beneficiaries, but benefit from funding activities of the NLC. To date, the clubs have not lodged a formal query/complaint with the NLC.

As an entity of government through the Department of Trade and Industry, the NLC is fully aware and sensitive to the cultural and religious rights afforded to all citizens through the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa.

The NLC commits to engaging with ASA around the issue and will facilitate further engagement with the affected clubs through ASA to discuss and find common ground on the matter while accommodating the legal considerations that exist around the brand.

- Ends -

For Media Enquiries/ Interview requests, contact:

Ms Odaho Sengani - Specialist: Communication

odaho@nlcsa.org.za or 012 432 1506 / 083 753 6968 / 073 983 9350

Funding Enquiries:

08600 65383

Website:

www.nlcsa.org.za

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Board members: Prof N A Nevhutanda (Chairperson) Ms T S Kekana Ms N E Loyilane Ms M Mokoka Prof G Reddy
Ms Nompumelelo Nene (Company Secretary)

Established in terms of the Lotteries Act 57 of 1997, as amended