



JOINT STATEMENT BY THE NLC AND THE NSPCA

5 April 2018

For immediate release

Following a meeting between representatives of the National Lotteries Commission (NLC) and the National Council of SPCAs (NSPCA), which was held in Pretoria on Thursday 22 March 2018, the two organisations wish to set the record straight regarding widely-publicised misleading statements suggesting that there is conflict between them, as a result of the focus areas for the financial year ending on the 31st of March 2018.

At the meeting, the NLC took the opportunity to clarify its funding model; In essence, the NLC generates revenue through its regulatory activities to distribute funds equitably to good causes. On average, the NLC distributes R1.5 billion each year, while funding requests amount to more than R10 billion in total. It is clear, therefore, that NLC funding cannot address every organisation's needs. Consequently, the NLC Board resolved to identify priority areas for funding on an annual basis to increase impact of funding.

According to the NLC's Chief Operations Officer, Phillemon Letwaba, "We have agreed with the NSPCA that the correct manner of handling concerns around funding is to engage the NLC directly through the review process. NSPCA also acknowledges the positive impact of the substantial funding that they have received from the NLC since 2001. We also re-emphasised that although the NSPCA's application for the current year was declined, this does not mean that they cannot apply for funding when priorities for the new financial year are publicized in April 2018."

"We welcome the open communication between the NSPCA and NLC and we are glad that we could amicably resolve any miscommunication between the parties.

The NSPCA remains committed to improving animal welfare in South Africa and the impact that our work has on society as a whole in spite of the application being declined in 2017. We are pleased that the NLC has committed to the inclusion of animal welfare for the upcoming financial year, acknowledging that the NSPCA is an important member of the NLC's stakeholder community" said Meg Wilson of the NSPCA.

Both the NLC and NSPCA are committed to ongoing direct communication to avoid any further misunderstandings that might result from the utterances of third parties.

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