

Media Statement

For immediate Release

NLC statement on the National Lottery Random Number Generator system

11 April 2019 – The National Lotteries Commission (NLC) regulates lotteries in South Africa. The largest of these is the South African National Lottery, currently operated by Ithuba Holdings (Ithuba).

As outlined in the Operator Licence Agreement, Ithuba has the responsibility to ensure that innovative methods are used in their operations to increase revenue for distribution to good causes that uplift communities, and to attract players.

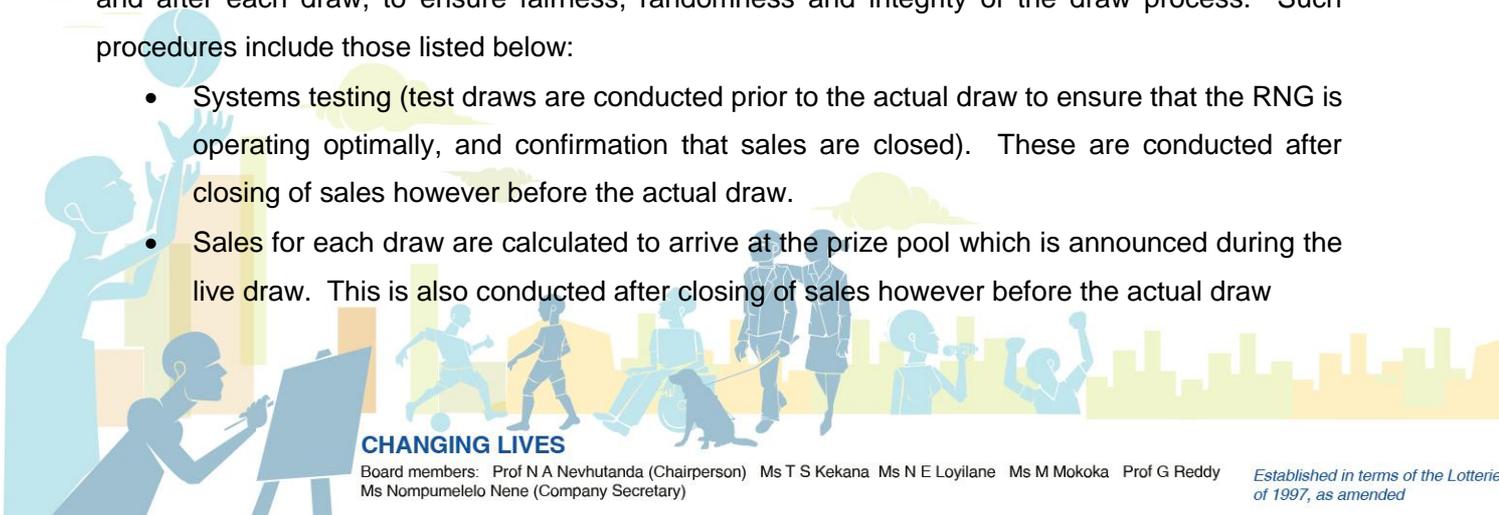
The NLC would like to assure the South African public that all National Lottery games and methods used to conduct draws undergo a rigorous process of review prior to approval by the Board of the NLC. This is to ensure that the National Lottery is conducted with integrity and that all players are afforded an equal chance of winning prizes.

In September 2017, the NLC approved a proposal from Ithuba to use a Random Number Generator (RNG) system, Trusted Draw 360 RNG. This is an independent computational device designed to generate draw numbers randomly.

The RNG used by Ithuba is recognised internationally by other Lottery Operators and was independently tested by a testing lab that is accredited by the World Lotteries Association. The RNG is purely a drawing system it is separate and independent from the central gaming system (where sales and play combinations are recorded). It was tested prior to its launch in 2016 and again in 2018. Periodic testing of the RNG will be conducted to ensure that the National Lottery draws remain random, fair and conducted with the utmost integrity.

The licence to operate the National Lottery requires strict procedures to be followed before, during and after each draw, to ensure fairness, randomness and integrity of the draw process. Such procedures include those listed below:

- Systems testing (test draws are conducted prior to the actual draw to ensure that the RNG is operating optimally, and confirmation that sales are closed). These are conducted after closing of sales however before the actual draw.
- Sales for each draw are calculated to arrive at the prize pool which is announced during the live draw. This is also conducted after closing of sales however before the actual draw



- Independent Auditors and officials from NLC observe the draw process to ensure that due process is followed in each draw.

The National Lotteries Commission remains committed to ensuring that the National Lottery is conducted with all due propriety, that interests of participants in the National Lottery are adequately protected; and that the National Lottery is conducted in line with the Lotteries Act.

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