



**YOUTH  
ECONOMIC  
ALLIANCE**

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The Chairperson  
National Assembly Portfolio Committee  
Telecommunications and Postal Services  
PO Box 15  
Cape Town  
8000

Attention : Ms Hajjera Salie

### **ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS AMENDMENT BILL [B31-2018]**

The gap between the haves and the have nots continues to widen in South Africa. The economy remains tilted towards one side in favor of the minority that controlled and continue to control the economy. Black people are spectators in policy decision making, economic opportunities and in new innovative ideas such as this one of the WOAN. We as black people in this ICT Sector have been passengers and mostly spectators in this Telecoms industry, which is now dominated by a minority, and foreign large corporates who neglect us in the deployment of networks and maintenance there off. The Telco space as a result is now dominated by the big four (4) and the result of that being high data prices, neglect of rural areas and worse of them apartheid like deployment of network that focus on white dominated areas over black dominated areas.

The PBICT in partnership with the Youth Economic Alliance (YEA) and South African Black Internet Service Provider Association (SABISPA) jointly have more than 1600 members majority of which are black, young and play in the ICT sector.

We have read and understand the bill as well as its desired outcome however we feel that as SMMEs we are not fully represented and as such we would like to make our verbal inputs on the following:

This act gives a lot of power to the authority. The act does not give effect to the B-BBEE ICT Sector codes and does not enforce the authority to implement.

We would also like organisations representing the interest of black SMMEs to be part of the Rapid Deployment Steering committee.

We have many concerns about the exclusion of Black people and that we are not protected and as such we request for an opportunity to come and present our concerns direct to the committee.

There is no mention of the youth in the bill and we propose that youth specifically must be protected. This must not be lost in translation.

We would like to make our verbal presentation to the above with our alliance partner the PBICT.

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Youth Economic Alliance Non-Profit Company | Registration: 2018/452667/08  
YEA NPC focuses on Youth Economic Development programme development and management,  
Incubation development, Policy & Research on Youth Entrepreneurship & SMME Development  
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Thank you and kind regards

*Afrika Mkhangala*

President

Youth Economic Alliance

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