



INFORMATION REGULATOR (SOUTH AFRICA)

*Ensuring protection of your personal information
and effective access to information*

MEDIA INVITATION

INFORMATION REGULATOR TO HOST INTERNATIONAL DATA PRIVACY DAY WEBINAR

23 JANUARY 2024

The Information Regulator (Regulator) in partnership with the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) and Media Monitoring Africa (MMA), will co-host the International Data Privacy Day Webinar (IDPD) on 29 January 2024. Annually IDPD takes place on 28 January and is an internationally recognised day for the global effort to empower individuals in asserting their right to privacy and in turn encourage public and private bodies to respect privacy, safeguard data and enable trust. The webinar will be an information sharing and dialogue platform to engage on the mechanisms that have been introduced by the IEC, social media companies, media houses, civil society organisations and the Regulator to preserve the integrity of the electoral process and protection of personal information. This year the theme will be **Misinformation, Disinformation and Data Protection during the Election Period.**

The year 2024 marks the 7th General National and Provincial Elections in South Africa, and according to the IEC they will be administering votes of millions of eligible voters during the elections. The electoral process by its nature, dictates the processing of personal information of millions of eligible voters by the IEC and other participants such as political parties, more so during their campaigning efforts.

During the election period there is a growing challenge of misinformation and disinformation which has adverse effects on the integrity of the electoral process, access to accurate information and data privacy. The spread of false information has the consequence of misleading the public or causing harm to the electoral process. The spread of false information happens quite often due to the ease of accessing and disseminating information on various

platform such as television, radio, and social media. Misinformation and disinformation are disruptive, divisive and can cause chaos and loss of trust in the electoral process.

Members of the media are invited to cover and participate in this webinar as follows:

Date: 29 January 2024

Time: 10h00 to 12h00

Topic: Misinformation, Disinformation and Data Protection during the Election Period.

Register in advance for this webinar on the link below:

https://qcis.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Knt3SDV9RmqxrN8A5968Lq

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ISSUED ON BEHALF OF THE INFORMATION REGULATOR OF SOUTH AFRICA, MEDIA MONITORING AFRICA AND THE INDEPENDENT ELECTORAL COMMISSION.