



**INFORMATION
REGULATOR
(SOUTH AFRICA)**

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

MEDIA STATEMENT

INFORMATION REGULATOR ELECTED AS EXECUTIVE MEMBER OF A GLOBAL BODY

22 JUNE 2023

The Information Regulator of South Africa (Regulator) is pleased to be elected to serve as a member of the Executive Committee of the International Conference for Information Commissioners (ICIC). The election took place at the 14th edition of the ICIC, held in the Philippines, where information commissions and Right-to-Information regulatory authorities from across the world were represented. The Regulator was nominated and elected to serve alongside other access to information regulatory bodies from Argentina, Bangladesh, and Bermuda.

The ICIC is a global forum that connects regulatory authorities responsible for the protection and promotion of the right of access to information in order to improve transparency and accountability to the benefit of everyone.

The ICIC 2023 was hosted in the Philippines under the theme “Access to Information as a Response to the modern challenges of Democracy”. The discussions were centered on catapulting the process of developing Right-to-Information laws in countries that have not implemented this human right, furthermore, there was a workshop for the regulatory bodies curated to assist them to improve the implementation of the right of access to information.

The election of the Regulator to the executive committee of the ICIC is yet another feather on the cap in recognition of the Regulator’s regional and global role as a champion of the right of access to information. In addition to this new role, the Regulator’s Chairperson, Adv Pansy Tlakula, serves as chairperson of the African Network of Information Commissions (ANIC), a continental body. Adv. Tlakula, led the delegation of African information commissions to the Philippines at the conference which ended on Wednesday 21 June 2023. She moderated sessions and led discussions on the promotion of access to information and accountability in

the digital era. One of the focus areas is the digital platforms having to take responsibility for combating fake news, which can undermine the rights of access to information.

Following the election of the Regulator to the executive committee of the ICIC, Adv. Tlakula addressed the conference and said: “We are pleased at being able to continue to contribute to the work of the ICIC. We hope that through our contribution we will be able to bring more countries from the African continent to be members of this great organisation. Once again, thank you so much for your support.”

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ISSUED BY THE INFORMATION REGULATOR OF SOUTH AFRICA.