



From the desk of the CEO



Welcome to the second CASA newsletter of 2016.

In June when the Minister of Trade and Industry increased the maximum number of casino licences that may be granted from 40 to 41 with the North West Province receiving the additional licence, we publicly voiced our strong objection to this. Our decision to voice our concern was not taken lightly and was based on the fact that we believe that the granting of this new licence was without any reasonable justification. It also sets a very worrying precedent for Government, it creates instability with the industry and damages investors' confidence.

Here are the top three reasons why we object to this increase in licences:

1. The decision goes against the recommendations of the Wiehahn Report

We are all aware that based on empirical data the Wiehahn Report on Gambling capped casino licences in South Africa at 40 and concluded that the North West Province should only ever have been allocated two licences. The number of licences in the province now stands at four, which is double the amount envisaged by the Wiehahn Report.

2. There is no empirical data to support this decision

It concerns us that no new study has been conducted to support any changes to the Wiehahn Report's recommendations. Furthermore, if there is reasonable justification for changes, there are still three casino licences available in other provinces which could be reallocated.

3. It goes against the conclusion of the Gambling Review Commission

In December 2015, we wrote to the Minister of Trade and Industry highlighting that the Gambling Review Commission had concluded that the limit of 40 casinos was appropriate. In March 2016, the Minister responded saying that the new licence "is considered special as the North West Province lost the Morula Sun licence as a result of the Gauteng/North West municipal border demarcation process". We really do not agree with this argument as the demarcation of provincial boundaries should not have an impact on the overall maximum number of casino licences allocated in the country.

We have taken the Government's position on this matter very seriously and have commenced with the legal processes to make our voice heard. We remain determined to protect our industry from harmful or misinformed policies and will continue to encourage investment, innovation and growth. We will keep you all updated on the outcome of this process.

In conclusion, I hope that you enjoy this edition of the newsletter and that the second half of this year treats you well both professionally and personally.

Advocate Themba Ngobese,
CEO CASA

CASA @ the Gaming Regulators Africa Forum

Advocate Themba Ngobese, CEO of CASA attended the Gaming Regulators Africa Forum in Ghana in July where he addressed delegates on the impact of illegal gambling.

[THEMBA'S PRESENTATION](#)

[INFO ON THE FORUM](#)

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CASA in the news

BusinessDay
[Casino Operators up in arms over additional licence](#)

iOL
[Furore over casino licence](#)

Times LIVE
[Casino Association questions minister raising allocations](#)

Media release

[CASA media release on the 41 licence issue](#)

Survey

[Casino Entertainment in South Africa 2015](#)

