



INDEPENDENT CONSUMER AND
COMPETITION COMMISSION

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Our Ref: 6203.2/RID

06th December, 2021

Mr. Kila Gulo-Vui

Chief Executive Officer

NICTA

P O Box 8444

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National Capital District

Dear Mr. Gulo- Vui,

RE: PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON REFERENCE INTERCONNECTION OFFER PROPOSED BY PNG DATACO LIMITED AND DRAFT GUIDELINES ON WHOLESALE AND RETAIL SERVICES

The Independent Consumer and Competition Commission ('**ICCC**') acknowledges receipt of National Information and Communications Technology Authority's ('**NICTA**') letter dated 3rd November, 2021.

We thank NICTA for the opportunity to provide comments on the revised Reference Interconnection Offer ('**RIO**') submission by PNG DataCo Limited ('**DataCo**') and NICTA's Draft Guidelines on Wholesale and Retail Services.

ICCC's comments on the RIO and Draft Guidelines are briefly discussed below for your noting and consideration.

Revised Reference Interconnection Offer

After reviewing DataCo's submission, we noted that it provided a detailed revised submission taking into consideration issues raised by NICTA and other stakeholders. We noted that there has been a reduction in the Wholesale Internet Service (**WIS**) (66%-94%) across all capacities on this revised pricing schedule. This is indeed great news for the sector in terms of wider accessibility and cheaper rates for end users. In addition, from a consumer affairs perspective, the ICCC considers that it is equally important for this reduction to be passed down to the end users. Therefore, the ICCC encourages NICTA as the responsible regulator for the Information Communication Technology industry (**ICT**) to ensure that the respective Internet Service Providers (**ISPs**) are passing on these reductions to the retail segment of the market.

Nonetheless, NICTA should proceed to accept DataCo's revised submission as it is now consistent with the requirements under section 142 of the NICTA Act.

"Our Competition Watchdog, Shaping our Market Economy and Protecting our Consumers"

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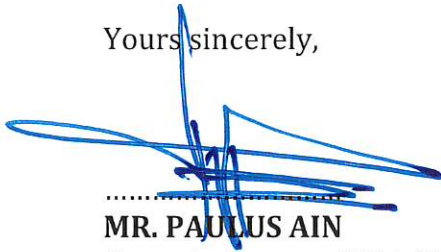
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Draft Guideline on Wholesale and Retail Services

In terms of the Draft Guideline on the demarcation between wholesale and retail services; pursuant to section 219 and 229 of the NICTA Act, the ICCC noted that the Draft Guidelines outlines and distinguishes clearly between the wholesale and retail segment of the industry. Although, section 4.10 briefly states the intervention of ICCC for any anticompetitive conduct within the market or unfair pricing of the wholesale access services, it should also extend to cover any consumer complaints relating to the services offered.

Please contact Mrs Stella M Kora, Executive Manager – Regulated Industries Division on 312 4600 or via email to skora@iccc.gov.pg, should you have any queries on this matter.

Yours sincerely,



MR. PAULUS AIN

Commissioner and Chief Executive Officer