



19 March 2018

--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--

Competition Commission Judgement: Media 24 admission of price-fixing

The office of the General Secretary-Organizer has noted and welcomes the admission by Media 24 of anti-competitive practices.

Whilst the punitive measures taken by the commission are welcomed, SATU is worried about the number of media companies involved in this matter. Also of concern is that some firms, even after 7 years and several admissions by other firms that price-fixing did occur through the Media Credit Co-Ordinators (MCC), firms continue to behave as if it is business as usual.

Third and most importantly, the actions of these companies cause instability in an already constrained industry. Our members are bound to feel the full effect of this ruling with retrenchments likely to follow nationwide and as SATU we feel that more needs to be done to ensure that when companies engage in such actions that there are provisions made for the job security of workers. Workers cannot continue to be retrenched due to the actions of the management teams at their places of work.

The office of the General Secretary-Organizer has been in contact with the office of Printing SA CEO Mr Steve Thobela to try and engage on this matter and the adverse effect it has on the printing sector and how as social partners along with Government can find a lasting solution that curbs this sort of behaviour by companies in the sector and protects workers should companies be found guilty of such actions.

Released by: Khwezi Smiso Makhathini (Media Liaison Officer SATU)

FOR ANY ENQUIRIES OR COMMENT PLEASE CONTACT:

KHWEZI SMISO MAKHATHINI – 066 117 1702

GENERAL SECRETARY-ORGANIZER: EDWARD DE KLERK – 082 567 6638

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