

#### **MEDIA RELEASE**

## **NBC ANNOUNCES TV LICENCE INSPECTIONS IN JANUARY 2016**

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

18 January 2016, Windhoek; Namibia.

The nbc's TV Licence department would like to advise the public that it will be sending out TV Licence inspectors in Windhoek and surrounding areas on Saturday, 23 and Sunday, 24 January 2016.

The inspections are in line with the Namibian Broadcasting Act of 1991, according to which the nbc is entitled to ask any TV set owner to produce a licence for inspection. "The TV Licence inspectors will wear nbc branded clothing and they will carry TV Licence identity cards," said Michaela Jaeger, the Head of the nbc's TV Licence department. "They will be easily identifiable and if any member of the public wants to confirm their identity, he or she can visit the nbc's website at <a href="https://www.nbc.na/tv-licensing">www.nbc.na/tv-licensing</a> or the nbc's corporate Facebook page."

The TV Licence inspectors will go from house to house in selected suburbs and ask for proof of payment for the current renewal period. Such proof may consist of: a copy of the automated and manual licence and receipt (from Nampost), a licence from nbc offices, a copy of an EFT printout or a copy of a deposit slip.

"For now we will focus on the current renewal period," Connie Ramatekoane, Supervisor of TV Licence Inspections elaborated. "This means, that clients will be asked to present their licences for the period 2015/16 which they obtained from Nampost, Nictus, any other accredited dealer or retailer and of course the nbc directly. If households have not received their licences yet, they can also present to the inspectors proof of payment, such as deposit slips."

The inspectors will be active from 9h00 to 18h00 and for the purpose of this exercise, they will concentrate their efforts of households. TV set owners who cannot produce a valid TV licence and/or proof of payment, can make a payment with the TV Licence Supervisor (North) that will accompany the TV licence inspectors.

If the inspected household is unable to confirm payment of the TV licence, the TV set owner will be presented with a formal payment demand. Clients who have received such a demand, must make payments within 21 days from date of receipt at the nearest Nictus branch, nbc or Nampost office. "If payment is not made within 21 days, the nbc is by law entitled to resort to legal measures," Ramatekoane added. "It is also important to note that inspectors are authorized to ask for additional information, such as receipt numbers, the number of TV sets, brand names and serial numbers as well as postal and residential addresses in order to determine the validity of a licence."

TV set owners who fail to make payments after a demand has been issued run the risk of being convicted to a fine or even to imprisonment. In terms of the Namibian Broadcasting Act, a court may even order the confiscation of a television set. "We appeal to TV set owners who have not paid their TV licence yet to please do so as soon as possible to avoid any of the above mentioned penalties," Jaeger concluded. "If clients do not have the necessary funds, they can approach the TV Licence department for payment options. And finally I would like to encourage the public to please cooperate with the inspectors as they are only doing their duty."

For more information on TV Licence matters, clients can call any nbc office or the NBC TV Licence Call Centre at 061-291 3111 and 061-291 2100. TV set owners can also send a fax to the number 061 – 250 755 or an e-mail to <a href="mailto:tvlicence@nbc.na">tvlicence@nbc.na</a>.



Elizabeth Isai, Ben Shidengi and Connie Ramatekoane the TV licence team that will be conducting the inspections

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