



MEDIA STATEMENT

CLARIFICATION:

**OSHILI24 ARTICLE TITLED "SHOULD EDGARS ALSO PAY BACK
NAMIBIANS?"**

1. On 5th May 2017, an article titled "**Should Edgars Pay Back Namibians**" appeared on the Oshili24 website (oshili24.com.na).
2. The article claimed that following the South Africa's National Consumer Tribunal ruling that the Edcon Group / Edgars ("Edgars") club fee is unlawful and in contravention of the South African National Credit Act. Further that the Namibian Competition Commission ("NaCC") will this week consider if there is a need to review whether Edgars has been unlawfully charging its credit customers in Namibia. The article further proceeds to claim that the NaCC's Director of Restrictive Business Practices, Ms Ashley Tjipitua will this week dwell on the aforementioned matter.
3. The NaCC wishes to clarify that it at no point made any undertaking to consider, review or investigate the above-mentioned conduct by Edgars in Namibia.
4. The NaCC is a statutory body established in terms of the Competition Act, 2 of 2003 in order promote and safeguard competition in Namibia. The conduct referred to in the above-mentioned Oshili24 article relates to allegations of contraventions of the South African National Credit Act. The NaCC does not have a mandate to investigate consumer credit matters. Furthermore, the Commission is not responsible for the administration of the Credit Agreements Act, Act 75 of 1980, the Namibian equivalent of South Africa's National Credit Act.
5. Based on available information, the above-mentioned alleged conduct by Edgars therefore does not fall within the purview of the Competition Act. The NaCC can therefore not review or investigate the aforementioned alleged conduct by Edgars.

Issued by:

**The Restrictive Business Practices Unit
Namibian Competition Commission**

8th May 2017