



COMPETITION TRIBUNAL
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Case No: CR190OCT17/SA105JUN18

In the matter between:

The Competition Commission

Applicant

And

Quality Talent Sport (Pty) Ltd

Respondent

Panel	:	A Ndoni (Presiding Member) F Tregenna (Tribunal Member) I Valodia (Tribunal Member)
Heard on	:	1 August 2018
Addendums submitted on	:	26 September 2018 and 6 February 2019
Decided on	:	20 February 2019

Consent Agreement

The Tribunal hereby confirms the consent agreement as agreed to and proposed by the Competition Commission and Quality Talent Sport (Pty) Ltd annexed hereto marked "A".

Presiding Member
Ms Andiswa Ndoni

20 February 2019
Date

Concurring: Prof. Fiona Tregenna and Prof. Imraan Valodia

IN THE COMPETITION TRIBUNAL OF SOUTH AFRICA
(HELD IN PRETORIA)

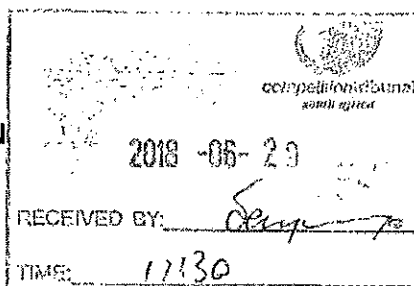
CT Case No: CR19OCT17
CC Case No: 2015DEC0705

In the matter between:

THE COMPETITION COMMISSION

And

QUALITY TALENT SPORTS (PTY) LTD



Applicant

Respondent

**CONSENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COMPETITION COMMISSION AND
QUALITY TALENT SPORTS (PTY) LTD IN REGARD TO ALLEGED CONTRAVENTION
OF SECTION 4(1)(b)(i) OF THE COMPETITION ACT, 89 OF 1998, AS AMENDED.**

Preamble

The Competition Commission and Quality Talent Sports (Pty) Ltd hereby agree that application be made to the Tribunal for the confirmation of this Consent Agreement as an order of the Tribunal in terms of section 49D read with section 58(1)(a)(iii) and 58(1)(b) of the Competition Act, No. 89 of 1998, as amended, in respect of contraventions of section 4(1)(b) (i) of the Act, on the terms set out below.

1. Definitions

For the purposes of this Consent Agreement, the following definitions shall apply:

- 1.1 **"Act"** means the Competition Act, 1998 (Act No. 89 of 1998), as amended;
- 1.2 **"CLP"** means the Commission's Corporate Leniency Policy (Government Notice No. 628 of 23 May 2008, published in Government Gazette No.31064 of 23 May 2008);
- 1.3 **"Commission"** means the Competition Commission of South Africa, a statutory body established in terms of section 19 of the Act, with its principal place of business at Mulayo Building (Block C), the DTI Campus, 77 Meintjies Street, Sunnyside, Pretoria, Gauteng;
- 1.4 **"Commissioner"** means the Commissioner of the Competition Commission, appointed in terms of section 22 of the Act;
- 1.5 **"Complaint"** means the complaint initiated by the Commissioner in terms of section 49B(1) of the Act under case number 2015Dec0705;
- 1.6 **"Consent Agreement"** means this agreement duly signed and concluded between the Commission and QTS;

1.7 **"Parties"** means the Commission and QTS; and

1.8 **"QTS"** means Quality Talent Sports (Pty) Ltd, a private company duly registered and incorporated in accordance with the laws of the Republic of South Africa, with its principal place of business situated at Block 804, Ground Floor Left, Hammets Crossing Office Park, No.2 Selbourne Road, Fourways, Johannesburg, Gauteng;

1.9 **"SAFIA"** means South African Football Intermediaries Association, an association whose members are football players' agents, coaches and clubs and has its principal place of business situated at, 93 Protea Road, Chislehurst, Sandton, Gauteng;

1.10 **"Tribunal"** means the Competition Tribunal of South Africa, a statutory body established in terms of section 26 of the Act, with its principal place of business at Mulayo building (Block C), the DTI Campus, 77 Meintjies Street, Sunnyside, Pretoria, Gauteng.

1.11 **"Respondents"** means all the firms that are cited as the respondents (including QTS) in the Commission's complaint referral filed under Competition Tribunal Case number: CR190Oct17.

2. COMMISSION'S INVESTIGATION AND FINDINGS

2.1 On 14 December 2015, the Commissioner initiated a complaint against the

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Respondents in terms of section 49(B)(1) of the Act for alleged price fixing and/or fixing of a trading condition when negotiating transfer fees on behalf of football players and coaches, in contravention of section 4(1)(b)(i) of the Act.

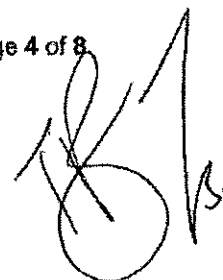
2.2 The allegations against the respondents are that:

2.2.1 From at least 2003 to date, the respondents have an agreement and/or engaged in a concerted practice to fix the price and/or trading conditions in contravention of section 4(1)(b)(i) of the Act.

2.2.2 The respondents fixed the commission charged to football players and coaches at 10% for negotiating and concluding new contracts, transfer contracts, and renewal contracts with football clubs.

2.2.3 The respondents also fixed the commission charged to football players and coaches at 20% for negotiating and concluding commercial contracts on their behalf.

2.2.4 The Commission found that the above mentioned practices by the respondents gave rise to a restriction of competition amongst competing respondents in that they did not independently determine an element of a price in the form of discount or trading terms. These practices amount to price fixing and the fixing of trading conditions in contravention of section

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4(1)(b)(i) of the Act.

3. THE COMMISSION'S REFERRAL

3.1 Following its investigation, the Commission concluded that the conduct by QTS and the implicated respondents constituted a contravention of section 4(1)(b)(i) of the Act, in that they engaged in a conduct referred to in paragraph 2 above.

3.2 In light of these findings, the Commission decided to refer the complaint on 28 September 2017 to the Tribunal for determination. The complaint was finally referred to the Tribunal on 10 October 2017.

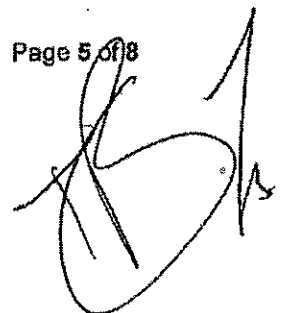
4. AGREEMENTS

4.1 Admissions

QTS admits that it engaged in the conduct set out in clause 2 above in contravention of section 4(1)(b)(i) of the Act.

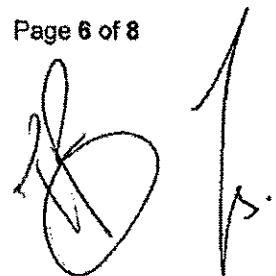
4.2 Future conduct

4.2.1 QTS agrees and undertakes to fully co-operate with the Commission in relation to the prosecution of any other respondent who is the subject of its investigations and referral to the Tribunal. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, QTS specifically agrees to: ---

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- 4.2.1.1 Testify before the Tribunal regarding the conduct and events forming the factual basis of the Commission's referral affidavit and which are covered by this Consent Agreement;
- 4.2.1.2 To the extent that it is in existence, provide evidence, written or otherwise, which is in its possession or under its control, concerning the alleged contraventions set out in the Commission's referral affidavit;
- 4.2.1.3 Desist from engaging in the conduct complained of;
- 4.2.2 QTS agrees that it will in future refrain from engaging in a cartel conduct which may lead to a possible contravention of section 4(1)(b) of the Act.
- 4.2.3 QTS will attend a competition law compliance training programme incorporating corporate governance to be provided by the Commission and designed to ensure that its employees, management, directors and agents does not engage in future contravention of the Act.
- 4.2.4 QTS will ensure that such training materials will be made available to all new employees joining QTS.
- 4.2.5 Furthermore, QTS will update and repeat such training materials annually to ensure on an ongoing basis that its employees, management, directors and agents do not engage in any future contraventions of the Act.

5. Administrative penalty

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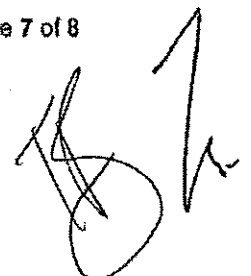
5.1. QTS agrees that it is liable to pay an administrative penalty in the sum of R114 188, 84 (one hundred and fourteen thousand one hundred and sixty eight rands and eighty four cents. This amount is less than 10% of its annual turnover for the financial year ended 31 March 2016.

5.2 QTS shall pay the abovementioned amount to the Commission in two equal instalments. The first instalment of R57 084.40 (fifty seven thousand and eighty four rands and forty cents) shall be paid within 30 (thirty) days of the confirmation of this consent agreement as a consent order by the Tribunal and the balance of R57 084.40 (fifty seven thousand and eighty four rands and forty cents) shall be paid 6 months from the date of the first payment.

5.3 This payment shall be paid into the Commission's bank account, details of which are as follows:

Name:	The Competition Commission Fee Account
Bank:	Absa Bank, Pretoria
Account Number:	4050778576
Branch Code:	323 345
Ref:	2015Dec0705/Quality Talent Sports

5.4 The Commission will pay this sum to the National Revenue Fund in terms of section 59(4) of the Act.

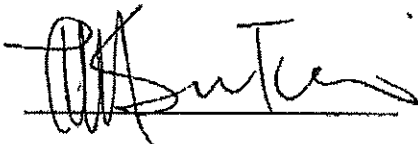
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6. Full and final settlement

This agreement, upon confirmation as an order by the Tribunal, is entered into in full and final settlement and concludes all proceedings between the Commission and QTS relating to any alleged contravention of the Act that is the subject of the Commission's investigation by QTS (under CC Case number: 2015Dec0705).

Dated and signed at SANDTON on the 23RD day of JUNE 2018

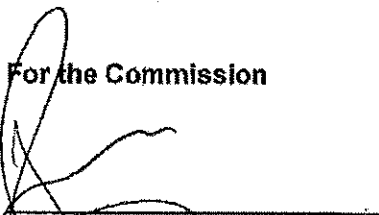
For Quality Talent Sports



Managing Director

Name in Full: TIMOTHY SUKAZI

Dated and signed at PRETORIA on the 28 day of JUNE 2018



For the Commission

Tembinkosi Bonakele

Competition Commissioner