



## COMPETITION TRIBUNAL OF SOUTH AFRICA

Case No.: CR189Mar22/STR04Jun25

In the application to strike out between:

<b>META PLATFORMS INC.</b>	First Applicant
<b>WHATSAPP INC.</b>	Second Applicant
<b>FACEBOOK SOUTH AFRICA (PTY) LTD</b>	Third Applicant

and

<b>GOVCHAT (PTY) LTD</b>	First Respondent
<b>HASHTAG LETSTALK (PTY) LTD</b>	Second Respondent

*In re:* the matter between:

<b>COMPETITION COMMISSION</b>	Applicant
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and

<b>META PLATFORMS INC.</b>	First Respondent
<b>WHATSAPP INC.</b>	Second Respondent
<b>FACEBOOK SOUTH AFRICA (PTY) LTD</b>	Third Respondent
<b>GOVCHAT (PTY) LTD</b>	First Intervenor
<b>HASHTAG LETSTALK (PTY) LTD</b>	Second Intervenor
	Second Intervenor

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Panel:	G Budlender (Presiding Member)
	T Vilakazi (Tribunal Member)
	I Valodia (Tribunal Member)

Heard on:	03 December 2025
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Order Issued on:	27 January 2026
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## ORDER

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**Having read the papers filed in application CR189Mar22/STR04Jun25, having heard argument from the parties, and having considered submissions by the parties, the Tribunal orders as follows:**

1. The application to strike out: (i) paragraphs 11 to 185, and 187 to 189 of the witness statement of Mr Bradley Sacks filed in Case No: CR189Mar22 on 5 May 2025; and; (ii) paragraphs 2 to 5 of the witness statement of Ms Tandi Haslam filed in Case No: CR189Mar22 on 5 May 2025, is dismissed.
2. There is no order as to costs.

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**Date**  
**27 January 2026**

**Adv. Geoff Budlender SC**  
**Concurring: Prof. Imraan Valodia and Prof. Thando Vilakazi**

Tribunal Case Managers: Andriza Liebenberg, Tarryn Sampson, and Theresho Galane  
For Meta Platforms Inc., Jerome Wilson SC and Lerato Zikalala WhatsApp Inc., and Facebook instructed by Derek Lotter and Claire Reidy of South Africa (Pty) Ltd: Bowmans  
For GovChat (Pty) Ltd and Paul Farlam SC and Luke Kelly instructed by Hashtag Letstalk (Pty) Ltd: Shawn van der Meulen of Webber Wentzel