2nd Floor Greenside Johannesburg

Ms Hajiera Salie

Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Communications and Digital Technologies Parliament

Email: sabcbill@parliament.gov.za

12 January 2024

Dear Ms Salie

SUBMISSION ON SABC BILL

I write in response to the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Communications and Digital Technologies call for public submissions on the SABC Bill 2023.

My organisation, CFE, dedicated to the protection and promotion of freedom of speech, places great importance on the sustainability and independence of the SABC for our country, its democracy and its economy. We are deeply concerned that the Bill should not be passed in its current form, as it will not contribute – and likely harm – the SABC's viability as a public service broadcaster and a key player in ensuring the free flow of information in our country.

We are members of the SOS Support Public Broadcasting coalition and have made inputs into the detailed and substantial submission by SOS, MMA and Sanef. We endorse their submission wholeheartedly and therefore have no need to make our own. Kindly convey our support for the SOS coalition's submission to the committee.

We urge you to give careful and full consideration of this submission and hope to be able to contribute to the drafting of a more appropriate and effective Bill.

Sincerely

Anton Harber

Executive Director