

Portfolio Committee on Trade, Industry and Competition

Engagement with the South African Institute of Auctioneers, South African Professional Auctioneers Association and Regulatory Bodies on the impact of online auctions of strategic assets on economic transformation, as well as transformation within the auctioneering profession

-

Auction Industry Stakeholders and Regulatory Bodies

Competition Commission

06 October 2026

Presentation by the Commissioner - Ms Doris Tshepe

OUTLINE

1 Legislative Mandate

2 Our core functions

3 Jurisdiction and statutory scope

4 Regulatory interventions in the Auction Industry

5 Conclusion

LEGISLATIVE MANDATE

The Commission is established in terms of

The Competition Act,
89 of 1998, as
amended

With a core mandate to:

Investigate complaints

Regulate mergers

Evaluate exemptions

Conduct market inquiries

Facilitate voluntary compliance

Conduct impact assessments

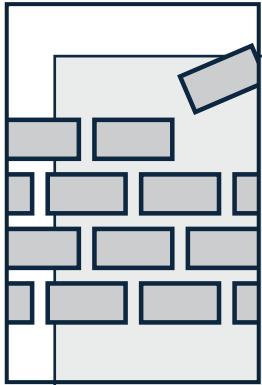
In order to achieve

Equity

Efficiency

In the South African economy

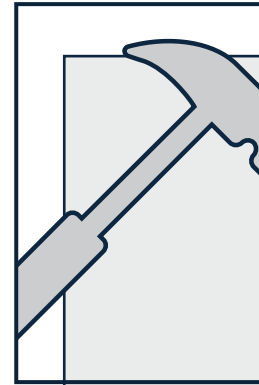
CORE FUNCTIONS OF THE COMPETITION COMMISSION



Enforcement

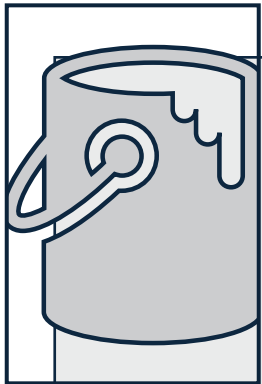
- Prosecution of anti-competitive behaviour, including:
 - Cartels
 - Abuse of dominance
 - Other prohibited conduct

Exemptions



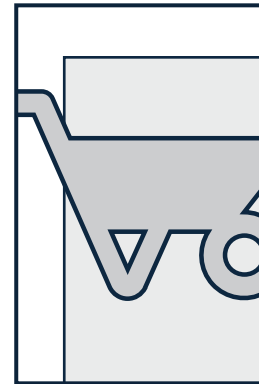
Mergers & Acquisitions

- Prevent concentration through merger control
- Review of merger applications
- Approvals, approvals with conditions, prohibitions



Market Inquiries

- General probe into state of competition in a market without investigating a particular firm.



Advocacy

- Advocacy for pro-competitive conduct
- Case/ Sector Advocacy
- Stakeholder Relations (incl. international)
- Policy Reviews

JURISDICTION AND STATUTORY SCOPE



The Competition Act applies to ***all economic activity within, or having an effect within***, the Republic, *but for* collective bargaining and concerted conduct for non-commercial socio-economic objectives.

The Commission thus has an overarching mandate on competition regulation including in the auction industry, comprising:

M&A	Prevents anticompetitive consolidation
Market Inquiries	Addresses systemic constraints to competition
Complaints	Targets, and stops, specific anticompetitive conduct
Exemptions	Assesses exemptions filed

CURRENT WORK IN AUCTION INDUSTRY



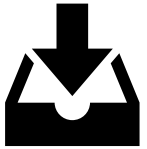
Cartel Investigation

- In March 2025 the Commission received a complaint from Mr. Johan Ungerer against Bassani Auction House, Members of the South African Association of Numismatic Dealers (“SAAND”), and South African Mint (the Respondents).
- He alleges that the Respondents are engaged in manipulation of auction prices to prop up/continually appreciate the value numismatic coins by manipulating the value at which the coins are purchased at auction.
- Investigation underway in terms of section 4(1)(b)(i) (price fixing) (ii) (market allocation).

CONCLUSION



- The Commission has a broad mandate to regulate competition matters through merger regulation, investigations, market inquiries, exemptions, and to conduct advocacy on proactive competition law compliance across the South African economy



- The Commission presently has one active investigation implicating auction markets and will investigate any concerns that may arise



competition commission
south africa

THANK YOU

Tel: +27 (0)12 394 3200

Fax: +27 (0)12 394 0166

Email: CCSA@compcom.co.za

Twitter: [@CompComSA](https://twitter.com/CompComSA)

Facebook: Competition Commission South Africa