

COMPETITION TRIBUNAL OF SOUTH AFRICA

Case No.: CR189Mar22/STR04Jun25

In the application to strike out between:

META PLATFORMS INC.

First Applicant

WHATSAPP INC.

Second Applicant

FACEBOOK SOUTH AFRICA (PTY) LTD

Third Applicant

and

GOVCHAT (PTY) LTD

First Respondent

HASHTAG LETSTALK (PTY) LTD

Second Respondent

In re: the matter between:

COMPETITION COMMISSION

Applicant

and

META PLATFORMS INC.

First Respondent

WHATSAPP INC.

Second Respondent

FACEBOOK SOUTH AFRICA (PTY) LTD

Third Respondent

GOVCHAT (PTY) LTD

First Intervenor

HASHTAG LETSTALK (PTY) LTD

Second Intervenor

Second Intervenor

Panel:

G Budlender (Presiding Member)

T Vilakazi (Tribunal Member)

I Valodia (Tribunal Member)

Heard on:

03 December 2025

Order Issued on:

27 January 2026

ORDER

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.

Signed by: Geoff Budlender
Signed at: 2026-01-27 11:16:21 +02:00
Reason: Witnessing Geoff Budlender

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.,
WhatsApp Inc., and Facebook
South Africa (Pty) Ltd:

Jerome Wilson SC and Lerato Zikalala instructed
by Derek Lotter and Claire Reidy of Bowmans

For GovChat (Pty) Ltd and
Hashtag Letstalk (Pty) Ltd:

Paul Farlam SC and Luke Kelly instructed by
Shawn van der Meulen of Webber Wentzel