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**MEDIA RELEASE 06 OF 2021**

**13 AUGUST 2021**

## **CIPC APPROVES SAMPRA DISTRIBUTION OF R152 MILLION FOR MUSIC ROYALTIES**

The Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC) is pleased to announce the approval to distribute R152 million by SAMPRA, for music royalties for the 2020/21 financial year. SAMPRA is one of the collecting societies that play a crucial role in administering the collection and distribution of music royalties. The collecting societies license, collect and distribute music royalties to performing artists and owners of sound recordings.

The CIPC approves the royalty distribution plans submitted by the collecting societies, which are based on data of usage. In June 2021, the CIPC approved SAMPRA's distribution plan amounting to R152 million, to be distributed to SAMPRA members. SAMPRA anticipates to complete the distribution of the approved amount in the week of 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

The approved amount of R152 million is undoubtedly evidence that there is value in protecting creative work through the Copyright system, and CIPC prides itself on being a partner in the value chain of the needle-time revenue stream for the performing artists and owners of sound recordings in music.

The SAMPRA CEO Mr. Pfanani Lishivha, expressed his delight at the approval of the distribution plan. "This revenue stream will bring a much-needed financial relief to performing artists and recording companies, as they were dealt a heavy blow by the lockdown restrictions brought on by the novel Corona-Virus, loosely known as Covid-19. Due to the lockdown restrictions, artists were unable to perform live music and as a result, could not make a living or sustain their livelihoods" he said.

ENDS

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