



18 April 2017

Office of the Public Protector  
Adv. Busisiwe Mkhwebane  
175 Lunnun Street  
Hillcrest Office Park  
PRETORIA  
0083

Electronic message to: [registration2@pprotect.org](mailto:registration2@pprotect.org)

Dear Madam,

**IN RE: COMPLAINT: VIP PROTECTION SERVICES – DR. NKOSAZANA DLAMINI-ZUMA**

With reference to the above-mentioned matter.

I attach hereto for your convenience (marked Annexures “A1” to “A3”) articles that appeared in the news in the past few days. These articles are but two examples out of many, and report that retired African Union Chairperson, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, has been enjoying the protection of the South African Police Services’ (SAPS) VIP Protection services. This is despite the fact that, at present, Dr. Dlamini-Zuma is a private citizen and holds no high office.

The reports indicate that Dr. Dlamini-Zuma had been accorded this protection because of “security threats”.

It is my concern that spurious “security threats” are being used by the Minister of Police, Fikile Mbalula (“the Minister”) as justification for offering Dr. Dlamini-Zuma VIP protection for which she would not otherwise qualify. The Minister has failed to adequately and transparently make clear the basis on which he based his decision to offer Dr. Dlamini-Zuma VIP protection.

I request that you investigate this with the utmost urgency. Vital policing resources and public funds are being used – and quite possibly abused - to protect an ordinary citizen, when South African citizens face threats from criminals in their homes and on our streets on a daily basis. The true facts of this matter needs to be established.

I trust that you will find the above in order and look forward to your soonest reply.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Zakhele Mbhele'.

Zakhele Mbhele MP

**DA Shadow Minister of Police**

## *Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma gets blue light perks based on 'threat and security assessment'*

TMG Digital | 14 April, 2017 15:22



Presidential contender Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma. File photo.

Image by: Simphiwe Nkwali/ Sunday Times

**Presidential contender Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma is still receiving taxpayer-funded special VIP protection despite government saying earlier this month that she would have to sacrifice this perk when her term ended as African Union chairperson.**

**SAVE & SHARE**

[EMAIL](#)  
[PRINT](#)

This is because of threats against her, the South African Police Service said on Friday.

"Dr Dlamini-Zuma continues to receive protection from the Presidential Protection Unit (PPU) of the South African Police Service, fully in accordance with their mandate and prescripts, informed by a threat and security assessment," the SAPS said in a statement.

The Sunday Times reported on April 2 that Dlamini-Zuma, an ex-Cabinet minister and former wife of President Jacob Zuma, had recently visited Luthuli House with a three-car blue-light escort and an armed security detail, a courtesy extended to her by the Department of International Relations and Co-operation, that was meant to expire on March 31.

- **Blue-light perks end for Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma**

Dlamini-Zuma returned from Addis Ababa on March 15 after a handover process to her successor, Moussa Faki Mahamat, who was elected in January. During her tenure at the commission, she was afforded the status and protocol of a head of state, which included a huge security contingent.

In South Africa, she was given presidential protection services, which are usually extended to the serving president, deputy president and former presidents.

The SAPS said: "In terms of the PPU's mandate, protection is provided to the President and Deputy President of the Republic of South Africa, former Presidents, foreign heads of state and their spouses. The Chairperson of the African Union is afforded courtesies given by DIRCO with the status of President and while serving in that capacity, Dr Dlamini-Zuma was provided protection according to this prescript.

- **Dlamini-Zuma on secret ballots, opposition politics and school pupils taught to hate the ANC**

"Further protection is being provided to the former African Union Chairperson informed by the outcome of a security assessment conducted and ongoing investigations in relation to threats directed at her person."

Acting National Commissioner of the SAPS, Lieutenant General Khomotso Phahlane, to whom the PPU reports, said: "For security reasons, the SAPS will not discuss or deliberate on any details of the security afforded to Dr Dlamini-Zuma, or in relation to the mentioned threat and security assessment. That in itself would constitute a breach of security."

## Dlamini-Zuma – ordinary citizen, VIP protection

2017-04-16 06:01

Zinhle Mapumulo

**City Press**



Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma (Tshidi Madia, News24)

Opposition parties have slammed the decision by the SA Police Service (SAPS) to offer presidential protection service to Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma.

They have described this decision as illegal, unconstitutional and “an appalling abuse of police resources”.

Zakhele Mbhele, DA shadow minister of police, said Dlamini-Zuma didn’t hold a position in South Africa’s government and she was not a visiting head of state.

“She’s just an ANC party official,” he said.

Cope president Mosiuoa Lekota shared similar sentiments, saying: “Dlamini-Zuma is neither a state president candidate, MP or in a statutory political office that entitles her to this special privilege provided only for senior state officials.”

Dlamini's VIP convoy accompanied her to Sasolburg, Free State, to an ANC event, sparking questions about why taxpayers were still paying for her security as she was no longer the chairperson of the African Union Commission.

The SAPS, which is in charge of the Presidential Protection Unit (PPU), argued that Dlamini-Zuma was under threat, thus having to protect her.

Major General Sally de Beer explained that in terms of the PPU's mandate, protection is provided to the president and deputy president of the Republic of South Africa, former presidents, foreign heads of state and their spouses.

"The chairperson of the African Union is afforded courtesies given by Dirco [department of international relations and cooperation] with the status of president and while serving in that capacity, Dlamini-Zuma was provided protection according to this prescript.

"Further protection is being provided to the former African Union chairperson informed by the outcome of a security assessment conducted and ongoing investigations in relation to threats directed at her personally."

"For security reasons, the SAPS will not discuss or deliberate on any details of the security afforded to Dr Dlamini-Zuma, or in relation to the mentioned threat and security assessment.

"That in itself would constitute a breach of security," added acting national commissioner Lieutenant General Khomotso Phahlane.

However, two weeks ago, the department of international relations and cooperation confirmed to the Sunday Times two weeks ago it had paid for Dlamini-Zuma's blue-light convoy and security detail as a "courtesy" she had to use while doing party work since her return to the country on March 15.

The services were supposed to be extended to her only until the end of March.

Mbhele said the DA will submit parliamentary questions to Police Minister Fikile Mbalula to ask him to justify this costly VIP protection for a person who is plainly not a VIP and for him to explain these "threats".

"If public money is to be spent on protecting an ANC official, then the public must be informed of what serious 'threats' exist against Dlamini-Zuma, to justify expensive protection.

"The SAPS would be required to keep a detailed record of these threats, and Mbalula must make this known to Parliament," he said.

"President Jacob Zuma and Mbalula must be brought before the court to explain this blatant abuse of taxpayers' money," Lekota added.

The Freedom Front Plus also joined the outcry yesterday.

Speaking to News24, party spokesperson Pieter Groenewald said if Dlamini-Zuma feels her life is in danger she should avoid areas where she feels unsafe.

“Dlamini-Zuma is not a public official and is therefore not obliged to attend meetings. If she insists on attending meetings, the ANC and its MK veterans should protect her at their own expense,” Groenewald said.

The blue-light privilege story comes at a time when Dlamini-Zuma and Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa are seen as frontrunners for the governing party’s top job to succeed Jacob Zuma when he steps down in December as ANC president.

Mbhele said by this, “Dlamini-Zuma is proving herself to be another Zuma from the start; using state resources and public money with no regard for the rules.

“This smacks of a public-sponsored VIP status to boost Dlamini-Zuma’s stature as she campaigns within the ANC. The DA expects answers from Mbalula, and South Africa deserves to know why an ANC official is receiving VIP protection at public expense, with no justification made known yet.

# Police minister defends security for Dlamini Zuma

News | 17 April 2017  
Rapula Moatshe

Police Minister Fikile Mbalula has blasted critics over the police security for former African Union chairperson Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, saying the issue was used for political reasons.



*Minister of Police Fikile Mbalula Picture: Thobile Mathonsi/ANA Pictures*

He said Dlamini Zuma is being guarded because her life was under threat.

"I have received a report that says that there are issues in terms of threat analysis around her and that threat analysis is evaluated at all times."

Mbalula dispelled the assertion that Dlamini Zuma should not receive police protection because she was not a member of Parliament.

"She doesn't have to be a member of Parliament. If she is a person of stature and the threat analysis tells us that, (then police protection will be accorded to her)."

He said the police had in the past accorded protection services to other high-profile figures such as former Cosatu secretary-general Zwelinzima Vavi, SACP leader Blade Nzimande and EFF leader Julius Malema.

"We have done that with Julius Malema. We gave him counter-assault (and) he was not a member of Parliament. If there is a threat on his life that can lead to destabilisation of the country, we do that."



"If there is a threat on (the DA leader) Mmusi Maimane, we will guard him. If there is a threat on (Cope leader) Terror Lekota, we will guard him.

"The question of Nkosazana is used for political reasons," he said.

Lekota has, meanwhile, called on President Jacob Zuma and Mbalula to explain the "blatant abuse of taxpayers' money" for Dlamini Zuma's police security.