

COMMITTEES

PO Box 15 Cape Town 8000 Republic of South Africa Tel: 27 (21) 403 2597 Fax: 27 (21) 403 3205 www.parliament.gov.za

## **Standing Committee on Finance**

## Resolution on Subpoena for Mr Ben Le Grange, former Steinhoff CFO to appear at the 29 August Steinhoff Hearing

## 21 August 2018

The Committee notes:

- 1. Mr Ben Le Grange, the former Steinhoff International CFO, will not be attending the Steinhoff parliamentary briefing on 29 August.
- 2. Mr Le Grange's lawyer has informed us that Mr Le Grange is not opposed to appearing before the Committees and was prepared to do so on 22 August, the initial date set for the briefing, but that the lawyer is not available to be in parliament on 29 August.
- 3. The reasons for the postponement are beyond the control of the four Committee's dealing with the Steinhoff matter; and this includes the fact that Steinhoff representatives who have to appear before the Committees have to attend a court hearing in the Netherlands on 22 August and requested a postponement.
- 4. The enormous gravity of the Steinhoff crisis with the billions of rands that have been lost and the huge consequences for a wide range of people and institutions, in South Africa and globally.
- 5. The Steinhoff crisis is regarded by many experts as the biggest corporate scandal in South Africa's history.
- 6. While recognising the importance of the regulators and investigative bodies to pursue the Steinhoff matter, parliament has to exercise effective oversight and hold Steinhoff accountable, not least because of the huge losses inflicted on the pensions of public sector employees and other workers and other strata of South Africa's population.
- 7. The Committees resolution to subpoena Mr Marcus Jooste, the former Steinhoff CEO.
- 8. The Committees views that Mr Le Grange be summoned, if necessary, to appear before the Committee

The Committee resolves:

1. To request the Speaker's office to issue a subpoena immediately for Mr Ben Le Grange to appear before the Steinhoff briefing on 29 August 2018.