21st May 2020

Hon. T Mboweni

The Minister of Finance

Parliament of South Africa

Per e-mail:

# Dear Hon Mboweni,

**IRBA CEO APPOINTMENT**

I write to request information regarding the proposed appointment of Ms Jenitha John as the CEO of the Independent Regulatory Board for Auditors (IRBA).

I would be obliged if you could please let me have the following details:

1. The list of candidates for the position including a brief CV for each,
2. Details of the process followed by the IRBA Board in interviewing and appointing Ms John as the CEO,
3. Why Ms John has been selected as the CEO designate despite the fact that she is not a qualified and registered auditor,
4. Why Ms John who, according to the relevant PWC report, must be investigated for possible malfeasance in her role as the Chair of the Tongaat Hulett audit and compliance committee during the period of significant financial impropriety at that company,
5. Was a possible role played by Ms John in the reported malfeasance that occurred during her employment at Nampak and Adcock Ingram taken into account during her appointment,
6. What were the reasons given by Ms John for her departure from Firstrand,
7. What other positions has Ms John held since her resignation from Tongat Hulett and what were the circumstances and reasons for he departure from these employers,
8. Will Ms John be appointed as a full-time employee of the IRBA without any commitments to other organisations such as the IIA SA. If not:
   1. What impact will such other obligations have on her performace as the IRBA CEO,
   2. Will the remuneration to be paid to Ms John be reduced for the time that she spends on obligations outside of the IRBA,
   3. Will any costs that Ms John may incur in performing her duties to organsisations outside of the IRBA be carried by the IRBA and if so what are the details and why will IRBA carry those costs,
9. Was the retention of Mr Bernard Agulhas as the CEO considered and what were the reasons for not retaining him as the CEO,
10. Has the appointment of Ms John been brought forward from the 1st of June 2020 to the 25th of May 2020, if so what are the reasons for doing so,
11. Has Mr Agulhas been asked to leave before the end of his contract that is due to end on the 30th of June 2020, if so what are the detailed reasons for such a request,
12. What period of handover from the current CEO to the incoming CEO has been put in place,

I look forward to your swift response to my request.

Yours sincerely

**Alf Lees, MP**

**Democratic Alliance**