



PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

PO Box 15 Cape Town 8000 Republic of South Africa
Tel: 27 (21) 403 2911
www.parliament.gov.za

Hon T Modise MP
Speaker of the National Assembly
Parliament of the Republic of South Africa
P.O. Box 15
Cape Town
8000

29 December 2020

Dear Madam Speaker,

URGENT RECONVENING OF PARLIAMENT IN TERMS OF RULES 130(1) AND 130(3)(b)

With reference to the above-mentioned matter, as well as the address by President Cyril Ramaphosa on Tuesday, 28 December 2020, in which it was revealed that the roll-out of a Covid-19 vaccine in South Africa will be delayed to the second quarter of 2021.

I am writing to request that, in terms of Rule 130(3)(b) you urgently convene a special sitting of the National Assembly for the purpose of discussing a matter of urgent national importance, to wit:

The roll-out of a Covid-19 vaccination plan for South Africa

President Ramaphosa initially said that we would receive the vaccine in the first quarter of 2021. In his address to the nation on 28 December 2020, he stated that the vaccine will be available to South Africans in the *second* quarter of 2021, shifting the goal posts alarmingly.

It is further reported that South Africa have now missed two payment deadlines for the first batch of the World Health Organisation's vaccination programme. At the same time Billions more are being allocated to bail out a failed national airline.

The urgent roll-out of a vaccine programme is the only credible alternative to repeated lockdowns that costs our economy billions and destroys lives as well as livelihoods.

It is my belief that this matter is so urgent, that Parliament should reconvene *before* the new year – that is, before or on 31 December 2020. A virtual plenary should not take days to put together and will cause minimal disruption to Members'

schedules over the holiday period. In order to fulfill its oversight mandate in this matter, Parliament needs to hear from, and debate with, the cabinet members responsible for Health, Finance and Cooperative Governance amongst others.

I look forward to hearing from you most urgently.

Yours faithfully,

N.W.A Mazzone MP

Chief Whip of the Official Opposition