



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OFFICE OF THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

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7 March 2023

Adv Kholeka Gcaleka Acting Public Protector Office of the Public Protector Head Office 175 Lunnon Street Hillcrest Office Park 0083

Dear Advocate Gcaleka

INVESTIGATION INTO ALLEGATIONS OF A VIOLATION OF THE EXECUTIVE ETHICS CODE AGAINST THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA MR MC RAMAPHOSA

Pursuant to the last piece of correspondence received from your office on 19 January 2023, the contents of which have been noted, there has since been a significant new development pertaining to the above matter which I would like to bring to your attention as it may have a bearing on the relevant investigation.

In response to a Promotion of Access to Information Act (PAIA) application which I submitted on 07 December 2022, the South African Revenue Service (SARS) notified me, on 05 March 2023, that it had no record of any declaration by a Mr Hazim Mustafa of the foreign currency in question at OR Tambo International Airport as Mr Hazim had claimed in media interviews in late 2022. Mr MC Ramaphosa had previously stated that the sum of US dollars in question was paid to him for a cattle transaction, the payer of which was Mr Hazim. I attach hereto the SARS correspondence received as well as the accompanying affidavit.

In the absence of a SARS declaration, Mr MC Ramaphosa may be in contravention of a variety of other financial regulations. I am bringing the facts regarding this new development to your attention in the interests of transparency, accountability, and equality before the law – the very principles for which your office stands.

I request that your investigation takes into account the new information brought to light through the attached PAIA application. I also implore your office to finalize this investigation as a matter of urgency. Section 21 of the Public Protector Act stipulates that a preliminary investigation shall be concluded within 30 days. Given that your office confirmed that you will be investigating this matter

on 20 June 2022, it is clearly no longer reasonable or in the interests of justice for this matter to be delayed any further.

Your sincerely

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John Steenhuisen MP Leader of the Official Opposition Parliament of RSA