

National Assembly Member of Parliament

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21 June 2023

To: Hon. Albert Mammoga Seabi

The Acting Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Police

By email: nsihawu@parliament.gov.za; aseabi@parliament.gov.za; nocks.seabi@gmail.com

Dear Acting Chairperson

REQUEST TO CONVENE THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON POLICE DURING RECESS PERIOD IN TERMS OF RULE 161(2)(a) OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

I refer to the above request and to the recent events in which the South African presidential guard was refused entry into Poland for failure to provide correct documentation, together with the utterances, made on international media, by the President's chief of security, Mr Wally Rhoode.

As you would be aware, Mr Rhoode gave an interview from the grounded aircraft, which reached international media, in which he labelled the entire Polish Government as "racist", for refusing to allow them entry into the country. This despite Poland refusing entry due to incorrect/insufficient documentation and/or certifications.

Given the embarrassment that this has caused South Africa in the eyes of the international community, you would agree that these statements need to be accounted for and an investigation completed.

Mr Rhoode had no authority, on behalf of the South African Government, to make a statement of this nature, and given that the Presidential Protection Services fall within the ambit of the South African Police Service, it is imperative that you agree to this request for the Portfolio Committee on Police to convene during the recess period, as is allowed in terms of the Rules of the National Assembly, to summons Mr Rhoode, and any other necessary person, before the Committee to fully ventilate this issue.

Given the serious nature of these events, and the reputational harm it has caused South Africa on the international stage, I look forward to your urgent response.

Yours sincerely,

Hon. Andrew Whitfield MP Shadow Minister of Police Democratic Alliance