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ISAAC SELLO SEITLHOLO MP

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7 July 2023

ATTENTION: Nolith Ntobongwana

Dear Ms Nolitha Ntobongwana

RE: Summoning of the Acting Director General of the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure and the Property Management and Trading Entity (PMTE).

During a meeting of the portfolio committee on Public Works and Infrastucture, held on 7 June 2023, the Acting Director General of the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure, Ms Nyeledi Makhubele, promised to provide the portfolio committee with circular 135 which is the department's Leasing circular including the three hundred (300) DPWI owned properties that were to be leased out by the department as part of phase one (1) of the leasing process by the department.

To date, the portfolio committee has not be furnished with said circular including the list of the said 300 properties up for leasing.

I deem the failure by the acting DG to provide the committee with said information, as promised, as a blatant disregard towards the work of the portfolio committee as it is our job to hold the department and the executive accountable on behalf of those who elected us.

It against this background that I wish to implore you, as the chairperson of the portfolio committee, to summon the acting DG and the PMTE to an urgent portfolio

committee meeting to come and account as to why there is a delay in providing this crucial information to the committee.

The legacy report of the department indicates how the Property Management and Trading Entity (PMTE) under its Real Estate Information and Registry Services has made reference to circular 135 as part of ensuring control over DPWI assets. However, there seems to be no evidence is this circular. This is a problem that the Acting DG and PMTE need to come and account for during this meeting.

I believe that there should be material evidence that brings clarity and shows evidence of control over DPWI assets.

As such, the department with the acting DG and PMTE, should provide evidence on: (a) which are the 300 properties earmarked for leasing under circular 135 and where are they siuated, i.e., addresses, erf number, clear evidence of the extent of each property so as to ensure that potential leasees can make informed decisions, bulk services or not, rate costs (municipal/waterboard/Eskom account fully paid).

(b) what processes are to be followed by potential leasees and whether this process complies with section 217 of the Constitution on procurement systems given that leasing is part of procurement which must be equitable, transparent, competitive and cost-effective.

(c) which forms are to be filled and where are they to be collected from, both online and physical.

(d) what timeframes are relevant, and

(e) Which offices/branches would report on the state of the leases over their lifespan.

This information is particular significant given the number of DPWI onwed properties that are a risk to residents given the illegal occupation of these properties including informal settlements mushrooming on DPWI owened land parcels. I trust that the above information justifies my request for the summoning of the acting DG and PMTE to come and account on what I believe are serious dereliction of duty.

Kidn regards

SELLO SEITLHOLO MP

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