



**PARLIAMENT**  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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31 May 2025

Mr. TW Letsie MP  
Chairperson of Portfolio Committee on Higher Education and Training

Parliament of the Republic of South Africa  
5th Floor  
90 Plein Street  
Cape Town  
8000

Dear Committee Chairperson Letsie,

I trust this letter reaches you well.

I am writing to you following a meeting of the Portfolio Committee on Higher Education and Training held yesterday, 30 May 2025.

In this meeting, the Department of Higher Education and its political authority, Minister Nobuhle Nkabane refused to furnish the committee with the names of the alleged Selection and Evaluation Panel that they claim the minister appointed to screen the applications of 573 potential candidates for 21 SETA board chairperson appointees.

I hereby refer you to Rule 167(a) of the Rules of the National Assembly, read with section 14 of the Powers, Privileges and Immunities of Parliament and Provincial Legislatures Act 4 of 2004, which empower a parliamentary portfolio to "summon any person to appear before it to give evidence on oath or affirmation, or to produce documents".

If this panel indeed exists and is not a scapegoat fictional creation of the department and Minister Nkabane, then the panel must appear before our parliamentary committee to provide a full account, under oath, of the process it followed in selecting and recommending the withdrawn SETA board appointments made by Minister Nkabane.

Parliament, as an oversight body, fully mandated by the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa must and cannot be rendered useless by a Minister and a Department that refuse to be held accountable. As such, the committee must exercise the full muscle of its authority.

I, therefore, request that the substance of this letter be considered in the next meeting of the portfolio committee.

Yours in public service,

KL Khakhau MP  
RSA National Assembly