



07 July 2026

To: Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee of Women, Youth and Persons with Disability
Hon Chairperson: Liezl Linda van der Merwe
Electronic message to: mdumezweni@parliament.gov.za

Dear Honourable van der Merwe,

IN RE: REQUEST FOR THE MINISTER TO ACCOUNT TO THE COMMITTEE ON THE IRREGULAR HIRING OF STAFF IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN, YOUTH AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES.

I trust this letter finds you well.

I am writing to formally request that the Portfolio Committee on Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities urgently invite the Minister in the Presidency for Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities, Honourable Sindisiwe Chikunga, and the Deputy Minister, Honourable Steve Letsike, to appear before the Committee to account for the serious allegations of irregular appointments currently under investigation by the Public Service Commission.

As you are aware, recent media reports, including an article published in The Sunday Times, have brought to light a whistleblower complaint lodged with the PSC in March 2026. The allegations contained therein are deeply concerning and strike at the heart of the principles of good governance, transparency, and ethical conduct that we are constitutionally mandated to uphold in our public service. According to the reports, the investigation is looking into the alleged improper filling of a range of posts within the Minister's private office and the department for individuals described as friends and relatives.

While we note the Department's media statement affirming its commitment to transparency and cooperation with the PSC investigation, it is the constitutional duty of this Portfolio Committee, as the people's representatives, to exercise oversight on this matter and ensure that executive accountability is upheld. We cannot simply wait for the PSC's final report; the seriousness of the allegations demands that the department's leadership be given an immediate opportunity to account directly to Parliament and answer the public's questions.

I believe we must invite both the Minister and Deputy Minister to an urgent meeting. This will allow us to:

- Receive a full explanation of the allegations directly from the political heads of the department.
- Gain clarity on the nature of the appointments and the processes that were followed.
- Understand the Department's own assessment of the gravity of the situation and the steps being taken to ensure the integrity of its recruitment processes.

I look forward to your response and the Committee's deliberations on this important matter.

Yours faithfully,
Angel Khanyile, MP