



MEDIA RELEASE **IPID: PSA calls for urgent intervention to avoid collapse**

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The Public Servants Association (PSA), representing majority of employees at the Independent Police Investigative Directorate (IPID), is extremely concerned about the deteriorating working conditions and various maleficence practices taking place IPID.

IPID is on the verge of collapse and unable to conduct its legal mandate optimally due to mismanagement and maladministration. The situation is impacting negatively on the morale of staff. Some of the unilateral and fallacious decisions implemented by IPID include the freezing of posts, implementation of a 24-hour toll-free number, and restructuring in IPID without consultation. The current situation at IPID coincides with the appointment of the new Executive Director in August 2020.

IPID grossly undermines collective bargaining and acts unilaterally and with impunity on matters affecting its employees. Staff morale is at a low point and IPID is losing competent employees owing to, amongst other, ill treatment, bullying, and victimisation.

The PSA has escalated the plight of employees and sought the intervention of the Minister of Police and the President who both turned a blind eye on the crisis at IPID, which could explain the paltry performance by this important legally established institution. The culture of impunity and non-accountability will persist across government department, unless politicians and political heads are held accountable and use taxpayers' money as intended.

It is apparent that the President's slogan of "*thuma mina*" (send me) will remain a mere slogan whilst state institutions such as IPID are being destroyed. The PSA will, however, not accept the failure by the Minister of Police and the President to step in and restoring the credibility of IPID. The PSA will continue to protect the rights interest of the Union's at IPID and will escalate this looming crisis and state of disarray of IPID to the Portfolio Committee on Police for intervention.

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