

MEDIA RELEASE PSA alarmed by R2 Billion Defence scandal exposed by Special Investigating Unit

DATE 28 September 2026

EMBARGO None

ENQUIRIES communication@psa.co.za

The Public Servants Association (PSA), representing more than 250,000 public sector employees has noted with grave concern the Special Investigating Unit's (SIU) revelations of over R2 billion in irregular contracts by the Department of Defence. These findings expose systemic failures in procurement processes within the Department of Defence, undermining both fiscal discipline and national security. Central to these revelations is a R217 million deal linked to the acquisition of an Alpha-2 behavioural drug from Cuba. The SIU has also flagged contracts and variations worth hundreds of millions of Rands investigated under Proclamation R239 of 2025. These findings expose systemic weaknesses in procurement oversight within the Department.

The PSA condemns the misuse of public funds intended to strengthen the country's defence capabilities. Workers and citizens alike bear the consequences when billions are siphoned away through irregularities and corruption. The PSA also urges Parliament's Portfolio Committee on Defence to convene urgent hearings on this matter. The PSA underscores that irregular expenditure of this magnitude undermines morale among public servants who strive to uphold the values of integrity and service. The Union demands that recovered funds be redirected to critical areas of defence operations and employee welfare. The PSA will continue to monitor developments and ensure that workers' voices are heard in the call for accountability. The PSA reminds government that corruption scandals erode public trust and weaken democratic institutions.

The PSA stands firm in that accountability is non-negotiable, and that justice must be served without delay. The PSA reaffirms its commitment to fighting corruption and protecting the interests of workers and citizens, demanding that this scandal be met with decisive action. Prosecutions must proceed without fear or favour, disciplinary measures must be enforced, and recovered funds must be redirected to strengthen defence operations and improve the welfare of workers.

END

