

MEDIA RELEASE	PSA calls for urgent intervention into allegations of misconduct in South African Police Service's vetting unit
DATE	20 March 2026
EMBARGO	None
ENQUIRIES	communication@psa.co.za

The Public Servants Association (PSA) is extremely concerned following revelations made by KwaZulu-Natal Police Commissioner, Lieutenant-General Nhlanhla Mkhwanazi, during his recent appearance before Parliament's *ad-hoc* committee.

The severity of the raised allegations is alarming, including claims of deliberate obstruction in processing security clearances, compromised confidential files, and alleged mishandling of sensitive information. Lt-Gen Mkhwanazi alleges that his own top-secret security clearance has been left unresolved since 2013 owing to unverified accusations and administrative failures in the vetting office.

Such allegations, if true, point to serious lapses in internal integrity systems, raising concerns about the reliability of vetting processes across the SA Police Service (SAPS) and other state institutions. All units tasked with safeguarding national security must operate with the highest levels of professionalism, transparency, and ethical conduct. It is unacceptable that unresolved accusations and improper handling of sensitive documents may be influencing critical vetting decisions.

The PSA calls on the acting Minister of Police and the National Commissioner to urgently institute an independent investigation into the functioning of the SAPS Vetting Unit. Oversight bodies, including the Independent Police Investigative Directorate (IPID), and Parliament's *ad-hoc* committee, to intensify scrutiny of the Unit's operations, including allegations of institutional capture and interference.

The State Security Agency must clarify delays and provide a transparent report on systemic bottlenecks affecting the finalisation of security clearances. Government must prioritise the strengthening of vetting mechanisms to ensure that credibility of internal security systems is restored. Public confidence in the SAPS is critically dependent on the integrity of its personnel, systems, and vetting mechanisms. The PSA stands firm in the Union's demand for accountability, transparency, and the immediate correction of any administrative or ethical breaches.

END

