

MEDIA RELEASE PSA demands accountability at National Youth Development Agency

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) is extremely concerned about persistent governance failures at the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA).

Troubling developments have cast a shadow over an institution that was established as a cornerstone for youth empowerment in South Africa. Reports presented to Parliament have highlighted serious governance failures at the NYDA, including financial mismanagement, irregular procurement practices, and instability in leadership structures. These shortcomings have severely compromised the NYDA's ability to deliver on its mandate of empowering South Africa's youth.

The PSA condemns mismanagement, corruption, or political interference that undermines the mandate of the NYDA. Public institutions must uphold the highest standards of integrity and accountability, especially when entrusted with safeguarding the future of South Africa's youth. Young South Africans face daunting challenges, including persistently high unemployment, limited access to quality education, and scarce opportunities for skills development. In this context, the NYDA should serve as a beacon of hope and a driver of opportunity and not as a platform for self-enrichment or political patronage.

The PSA is extremely concerned that the NYDA's credibility is steadily being eroded by actions that betray its founding mission. Such behaviour squanders scarce public resources and denies South Africa's youth the vital support they urgently require. The PSA calls for immediate, transparent, and independent investigations into allegations surrounding the NYDA. Institutions funded by taxpayers cannot be permitted to operate without accountability. Citizens deserve full clarity on how resources intended for youth empowerment have been managed. Parliament and all relevant oversight bodies must urgently strengthen monitoring mechanisms to guarantee that funds allocated to the NYDA are directed exclusively towards youth-development initiatives. Robust accountability structures must be enforced to close loopholes and prevent abuse of public resources.

The PSA stands resolutely alongside the youth of South Africa, who deserve institutions that genuinely serve their interests and advance their future. The PSA demands that persons found guilty of misconduct face swift and decisive consequences. Urgent corrective measures must be implemented to restore integrity, rebuild public confidence, and ensure that the NYDA recommits fully to its core mission of empowering young South Africans.

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