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| MEDIA RELEASE | PSA raises serious concern regarding intended repositioning of SITA |
| DATE | 26 May 2026 |
| EMBARGO | None |
| ENQUIRIES | communication@psa.co.za |

The Public Servants Association (PSA), representing the majority of employees at the State Information Technology Agency (SITA), has noted with extreme concern ongoing discussions and indications regarding the intended repositioning of SITA by the Department of Communications and Digital Technologies.

The PSA and other unions have not yet been appraised of the intended purpose of the repositioning. SITA was established with a clear legislative mandate to centralise and coordinate government information technology procurement and services to ensure efficiency, cost-effectiveness, transparency, standardisation, and accountability across government. Any attempt to dilute or deviate from this intended purpose threatens the sustainability of SITA and the broader objective of strengthening governance and oversight in public sector ICT procurement.

Labour therefore calls on the Minister to refrain from any actions or policy direction that may undermine SITA's founding purpose. All efforts must be directed towards strengthening and capacitating SITA to effectively fulfil its intended mandate and with the aim of positioning SITA in the digitisation of government services.

It is the PSA's view that the continuous erosion of SITA's revenue base through the removal of government contracts and procurement functions weakens the institution and creates fertile ground for fragmented procurement practices outside centralised oversight mechanisms. This undermines Treasury controls and governance processes whilst increasing the risk of irregular expenditure, wasteful expenditure, and corruption.

Labour further calls for regulations governing ICT procurement in government to be urgently reviewed and amended, to ensure that government departments and entities cannot easily bypass or remove contracts from SITA without clear, transparent, and justifiable reasons subjected to proper oversight and accountability processes. Far too often, narratives are created portraying SITA as ineffective or incompetent, whilst the reality is that systemic procurement deviations and deliberate bypassing of SITA processes contribute significantly to operational challenges. It is unfair that dedicated SITA employees are continuously subjected to criticism and reputational attacks despite working tirelessly under difficult circumstances to ensure uninterrupted service delivery to government and citizens.



Government is advised that labour at SITA will not stand by and watch the systematic erosion and reduction of SITA's revenue streams in a manner that opens the door for procurement to occur outside proper Treasury oversight and control. Labour is committed to constructive engagement aimed at strengthening SITA, protecting jobs, promoting accountability, and ensuring that public resources are utilised in a transparent and efficient manner for the benefit of all South Africans.

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