

**MEDIA RELEASE** PSA appalled by conduct of Gauteng MEC for Sports, Arts, Culture and Recreation

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**EMBARGO** None

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) is appalled by the conduct of Gauteng MEC for Sports, Arts, Culture and Recreation, Ms Faith Mazibuko, as revealed by a leaked audio recording of a meeting between her and employees of the Department.

In the recording the MEC can be heard demanding for certain sporting facilities to be rolled out prior to the elections to influence election results. “The MEC displays a total disregard of the applicable tender processes and prescripts. She is further heard threatening to force senior staff to resign and making racial remarks to two senior staff members. This incident shows that given any opportunity beneficial to them, politically-aligned leadership will flout rules and regulations applicable in the Public Service for the procurement of services and use ordinary employees to do so,” said PSA General Manager, Ivan Fredericks.

The PSA pointed out that in the Nkandla debacle and various other recent incidents, workers were instructed to grant approvals that were not above board. “These workers were later blamed and brought to book for this while they, in fact, acted on instructions. The PSA commends the employees in this clip who refuse to flout regulations and persistently bringing this to the MEC’s attention. The Union encourages workers to stand their ground and follow proper procedure, regardless of undue pressure labelled as ‘instructions’. The conduct of the MEC in this instance exceeds the boundaries in various instances. The PSA calls for appropriate action to be taken against her,” said Mr Fredericks.

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