

MEDIA RELEASE	R380 million corruption scandal: PSA concerned about delayed action by Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency
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The Public Servants Association (PSA) is extremely concerned about the apparent lack of decisive action following the exposure of corruption at the Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MTPA).

In October 2025, investigations by the Special Investigating Unit (SIU) and the Hawks uncovered alleged corruption amounting to approximately R380 million, linked to so-called "ghost tenders". Following these revelations, the then Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the MTPA was suspended. The allegations relate to gross maladministration, manipulated procurement processes, and unlawful approval of tenders under the leadership of the suspended CEO. A report compiled by *Nexia* and released by the Mpumalanga Department of Economic Development and Tourism recommended that criminal charges be instituted against implicated officials, including the suspended CEO.

The PSA is therefore alarmed that the Premier of Mpumalanga intends appointing the suspended CEO to a position in government. At the same time, no visible action has been taken against any of the officials implicated in the MTPA-corruption scandal. The PSA reminds the Premier and the Provincial Government that every rand lost to corruption directly undermines service delivery and economic growth. Corruption deprives communities of essential services and limits opportunities for job creation at a time when South Africa continues to face one of the highest unemployment rates in the world. Government cannot claim to be committed to combatting corruption whilst people implicated in serious allegations are considered for senior appointments without accountability. Decisive action against corruption is critical to restoring public confidence, strengthening governance, and creating an environment that attracts investment and promotes economic growth.

The PSA is committed to promoting accountability, transparency, and ethical leadership. The people of Mpumalanga deserve a government that acts decisively against corruption and ensures that those implicated in wrongdoing are held accountable rather than being rewarded with public appointments.

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