

MEDIA RELEASE **SAPS National Commissioner suspension: PSA calls for swift action**

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) that represents thousands of police officers, recently questioned the effective management of the SA Police Service (SAPS) and thus welcomes the suspension of the SAPS National Commissioner to look into his capability to run his office.

This investigation should include the effectiveness of the SAPS Senior Management team involved in procurements and approvals. The PSA appalled by the conditions under which SAPS employees are expected to perform their duties, including no proper furniture and inhabitable buildings. The moratorium placed on the intake of much-needed human resources is furthermore shocking.

Government is continuously faced with incidents of looting of state funds through suppliers and procurement. This does not end and instead, more anti-corruption units are created to deflect attention from continuous looting without accountability and consequence management. The PSA trusts that this ploy is not only for electioneering purposes and that the *status quo* of looting and mismanagement will not flare up as soon as the elections are over. Police officers want to restore the dignity and respect of their profession. They risk their lives every day for the safety of citizens. The occupation and sector deserve to be beyond reproach, deserving of respect and dignity that it is entitled to in a democratic state.

The PSA calls on government to ensure that the time spent, and processes followed in resolving the investigation into the capacity of the National Commissioner should be prioritised. The matter should be resolved with speed and not be delayed for political reasons in the interest of stability of effective policing and law enforcement.

END