

**MEDIA RELEASE**                      **Home Affairs: PSA appalled by imminent collapse of service delivery**

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**EMBARGO**                                None

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The Public Servants Association (PSA), as the majority Union at the Department of Home Affairs, is appalled by an Auditor-General (AG) report, indicating that service delivery could negatively be affected should civil claims against the Department of Home Affairs continue to increase.

A number of claims have been instituted against the Department for not rendering a satisfactory service in respect of the lack or non-issuing of immigration and other documentation so that persons can maintain a livelihood. The report emphasised that the Department could no longer maintain a healthy financial status owing to unwarranted civil claims. The AG urged the Department to curb unnecessary expenditures to continue fulfilling its mandate.

The PSA previously cautioned the Department regarding irregular expenditure owing to incomplete tender projects. The ABIS modernisation project, was for example, abandoned even though the service provider was paid for the service that was not rendered. The PSA urged the Department to perform its functions with due diligence to avoid unnecessary civil claims and irregular expenditure. The PSA is further concerned about the lack of accountability and consequence management in the Department. In most instances, senior management is not held accountable for any wrongdoing.

The PSA urges Minister of Home Affairs, Dr Aaron Motsoaledi, and the Department's Director-General, to take decisive action against all persons found to have breached the *Public Finance Management Act* and relevant financial legislative framework. Continuous maladministration and fraud have eroded the state's coffers to the extent that government claims to be unable to pay public servants the salary increases that were due to them on 1 April 2020.

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