

<b>MEDIA RELEASE</b>	<b>PSA welcomes report recommending Public Protector's removal from office</b>
<b>DATE</b>	3 March 2021
<b>EMBARGO</b>	None
<b>ENQUIRIES</b>	communication@psa.co.za

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) welcomes the recommendation by the independent Parliamentary panel to institute removal proceedings against the Public Protector, Adv Busisiwe Mkhwebane, based in *prima facie* evidence of her incompetence and misconduct.

The PSA, as representative Union of the majority of employees at the Office of the Public protector, has repeatedly stated that Adv Mkhwebane is not fit to hold office. Since her appointment as the Public Protector, the image of the Office has been tarnished repeatedly.

In one example of how the Public protector administers the Office, the names of Investigators have been exposed to people who are being investigated, which poses a serious risk to the safety of these Investigators. An investigator is an employee of the Office of the Public Protector and any investigations conducted by an Investigator should be under the auspices of the Office of the Public Protector instead of the individual employee.

During Adv Mkhwebane's tenure, the organisation has run into serious financial difficulties because of vast amounts being wasted on frivolous litigations to protect her incompetence. The Public Protector attitude to misuse courts in attempt to avoid the ultimate process to remove her is enough to demonstrate that she is also well aware that prospects of her successfully removed are substantial. The PSA advises Adv Mkhwebane to do justice to the country and the Office and resign as Public Protector as she misunderstands her duties and is not fit to hold office. The PSA further appeals to Parliament to, based on the dooming report, expedite the process of Adv Mkhwebane's removal to restore confidence in the Office of the Public Protector.

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