Corruption Watch (RF) NPC
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03 December 2025

To: Hon A T Didiza

Speaker of the National Assembly

Per email: speaker@parliament.gov.za

To: Dr A Lotriet

Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly

Per email: alotriet@parliament.gov.za

To: Hon R Mtshweni-Tsipane

Chairperson of the National Council of Provinces

Per email: chairpersonsoffice@parliament.gov.za

To: Hon L Govender

Deputy Chairperson of the National Council of Provinces

Per email: pgovender@parliament.gov.za

To: Hon M S Lekganyane

Chairperson of the Ad Hoc Committee

Per email: vwilliams@parliament.gov.za

Dear Honourable members,

Introduction

CORRUPTION WATCH ENQUIRY INTO AN ALLEGED IRREGULAR INCREASE OF STP SALARY

1 Corruption Watch ("CW") is an anti-corruption non-profit civil society organisation and Transparency International Chapter ("TI Chapter") that opened its doors to the public in 2012. We are an independent organisation, with no political or business alignment.

Our work is centred on countering corruption and advocating for transparent, accountable, and ethical leadership in both the public and private sectors. It is also our aim to ensure that custodians of public resources act responsibly to advance the interests of the public.

Background

- We wish to bring to your attention alleged irregularities that have been brought to us in relation to the recent salary increase of the current Secretary to Parliament (STP).
- The STP position was offered on a five-year performance-based contract with an annual salary of R2 457 227.00 and was first advertised on 21 February 2020. A subsequent advertisement was published on 20 March 2022 and closed on 1 April 2022, reflecting an updated remuneration package of R2 604 661.00 per annum.
- Mr. Xolile George, the former South African Local Government Association (SALGA) CEO was appointed with effect from 01 June 2022 to 31 May 2027 with the remuneration package of R 2 604 661.00 per annum as advertised.
- We note that following Mr George's appointment, there has allegedly been an increase of his salary of more than 70 percent, from R2.6-million to over R4-million approved by the then-Speaker, Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula.
- According to the latest publicly accessible parliamentary financial report, the STP's annual salary has risen from R4.45-million to R6.1-million. This situation has persisted without intervention by your office, and we believe that consistently increasing the salary of STP to such an exorbitant level constitutes not merely a minor breach but a serious abuse of power.
- In light of the above, we kindly request that the Joint Standing Committee on the Financial Management of Parliament (JSCFMP) restore the integrity of Parliament and its decorum. We therefore request your office to provide us with answers to the following questions:
 - 8.1 Was the salary increase for the STP based on a formal job evaluation? If so, please furnish us with the complete job evaluation report.
 - 8.2 Was the STP's salary determined through review and recommendation processes conducted by Parliament's Human Resources Department? If so, please provide the complete report detailing the review and recommendations.
 - 8.3 Was the implementation of the STP's salary increase formally approved by the Speaker of the National Assembly and the Chairperson of the National Council of Provinces?
 - 8.4 Was there transparency and proper oversight in implementing the STP's salary increase? If so, please confirm whether the JSCFMP provided oversight on this matter, and furnish us with the relevant report, briefing statement, and meeting minutes.

- 8.5 Has your office reviewed and implemented the recommendations made by Adv Karrisha Pillay SC, who was commissioned to investigate the unlawful conduct of the former Speaker of Parliament regarding an irregular salary increase?
- 8.6 Has your office initiated an internal investigation into the circumstances surrounding the STP's salary increase, and if so, is the investigation ongoing or has it been concluded?

Conclusion

- 9 Over and above the listed questions, we formally submit our complaint and request your office to urgently address this matter.
- We request that your office attend and respond to the questions raised above within 30 days of the date of receipt of this correspondence.
- 11 We look forward to receiving an outcome in due course.

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Please note that in the interests of transparency, we may publish this correspondence and any responses hereto.

Yours sincerely,

Lord Ntambw and Moira Campbell

Joint Interim Leaders
Corruption Watch

Per e-mails:

<u>LordN@corruptionwatch.org.za</u> <u>MoiraC@corruptionwatch.org.za</u>