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Dear Mr Carrim

Recommendation for on-going feedback to Parliament on developments regarding the Steinhoff investigative process

1. As a follow up to our commitment to on-going communication and updates on the process to Parliament, I refer to recent discussions regarding a return visit to attend a meeting of Joint Committees of Parliament by Steinhoff and the timing thereof.
2. This follows our attendance at the Joint Committee meeting on 30 January 2018, wherein Steinhoff committed to co-operate as far as possible with the process, insofar as market rules and other legal constraints permit.
3. These constraints are a real concern to us because questions were asked which - if answered then - may have amounted to providing inside information (constituting market abuse), and may have amounted to defeating the ends of justice in relation to criminal complaints which are being investigated by the authorities.
4. This tended to potentially irritate members of the joint committees, who may not have understood the legitimate reasons why we could not answer the questions then.
5. In our subsequent discussions we have considered together when would be the "ideal moment in time" to hold a subsequent joint committee sitting. Steinhoff has affirmed a zero-tolerance approach to fraud and any unlawful or illegal conduct and it continues with the investigations which have commenced. The issue is when Steinhoff would be able to add substance by reporting on the findings of the public commitment.
6. In this regard, PwC has established timetables in its investigations and Steinhoff is going through its own corporate processes such as holding its Annual General Meeting in April. It is to be expected that additional independent directors will be appointed at the Annual General Meeting. These factors will contribute to Steinhoff being in a better position to make its next presentation to the Joint Committees.

7. Based on the timetables of PwC and the corporate calendar of Steinhoff and our desire to provide a more clear picture to Parliament, we propose that the next meeting of the Joint Committees where Steinhoff gives feedback should not be held before the end of May 2018.
8. We remain as always committed to an open channel of communication to Parliament and its stakeholders and our proposed date should be seen as an attempt to have something substantive to report and to not compromise any on-going processes.
9. I look forward to your proposed date for the meeting.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'HS' with a stylized flourish.

Heather Sonn
Acting Chairperson