**MEDIA STATEMENT**

**SCOPA to table a Resolution Declaring former PRASA Board Members Delinquent**

**Parliament, Wednesday, 5 February 2020 –**The Standing Committee on Public Accounts (Scopa) has committed to table a resolution to the National Assembly that will request Parliament to declare the former Interim Board and previous Boards of the Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa (Prasa) as delinquent directors to prevent their appointment in any other Board of Directors in future.

The committee came to this decision after it was informed by Prasa that the previous Interim Board prevented management from operating to its full capacity particularly when it came to risk management and financial management.

The committee will begin a process of a fully-fledged Parliamentary Inquiry in an effort to gather facts that will assist in establishing when did these problems start at Prasa, as it doesn’t believe that they started with the former Interim Board. Furthermore, the committee believes that it is important to go as far back as necessary.

The Parliamentary Legal Services will be asked by the committee to draw a roadmap that will assist it to reach the desired outcome for this process. The committee wants to conduct an age analysis that will also include scrutinising the past reports of the Auditor-General, and Prasa management reports to determine the beginning of the challenges currently faced by the agency.  This is to ensure that all the previous Prasa boards are held accountable.

Scopa is satisfied with the plans presented today by the new Administrator, Mr Bongisizwe Mpondo and by the commitments made by the Minister of Transport, Mr Fikile Mbalula on this process. The committee has also resolved to meet with law enforcement agencies, particularly the Hawks, to check progress on all Prasa cases currently under investigation.

**ISSUED BY THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMUNICATION SERVICES ON BEHALF OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF SCOPA, MR MKHULEKO HLENGWA.**