**MEDIA STATEMENT**

**SCOPA INSTRUCTS ESKOM BOARD TO EXPLAIN FAILURE TO APPEAR AT TODAY’S MEETING**

**Parliament, Tuesday, 18 February 2020 –**The Standing Committee on Public Accounts (Scopa) has resolved to instruct the Eskom Board to explain why it failed to appear before Scopa today.

The committee is concerned with the reckless, irresponsible and careless manner in which the Board elected not to appear before it, as there was no apology and no explanation sent to the committee. This is very concerning to Scopa as the Board is the accounting authority. Furthermore, this is an Interim Board tasked with assisting Eskom to turn things around. The absence of the Interim Board is inexcusable and unacceptable and exposes the fact that there is no proper oversight at Eskom.

Scopa is also dissatisfied with the presentation made by Eskom today that did not specifically address the recommendations made by Scopa to Eskom in relation to deviations and expansions. The presentation responded to the recommendations in general, but lacked the specific details requested by Scopa. Scopa requested Eskom to submit detailed responses to the recommendations, including the status of the vetting of employees and financials by next week Wednesday, 26 February 2020. Scopa has also scheduled a follow-up meeting with Eskom on this matter for 4 March 2020 at 18:00.

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