**MEDIA STATEMENT**

**TRANSPORT COMMITTEE SATISFIED WITH PRASA’S PLAN AND CALLS FOR REVIEW OF TRANSFORMATION TARGETS**

**Parliament, Monday, 11 May 2020** – The Portfolio Committee on Transport has welcomed the progress made at the Passenger Rail Agency of SA (Prasa) by the Administrator. However, the committee said the targets on doing business with women and black companies were too low.

The Chairperson of the Committee Mr Mosebenzi Zwane said the committee was satisfied with the progress made and that it agreed with the turnaround plan as presented.

“From where the company was a year ago, the amount of work that had been reported to the committee this afternoon is commendable. The committee would like the Administrator and the ministry to revisit the transformation targets in the plan, 9% of procurement budget of over R2billion is too low.”

Furthermore, Mr Zwane said: “The committee is also satisfied with the approach Minister Mbalula is taking on appointing a new board, the work which the minister indicated is urgent but needs thoroughness. It is necessary that the right people who will make Prasa relevant to the needs of our people post COVID-19 are appointed to the new board.”

PRASA Administrator, Mr Bongisizwe Mpondo, presented to the committee Prasa’s 2020/21 Corporate Plan and how he hoped to effect change at the entity within the contract period he had been allowed of 12 months. He told members that a technical team was in place to assemble the right skills that will implement most of what was contained in the plan. He said the plan sought to create business continuity and that he hoped to hand over a stable business that is able to support the rail service and what it is meant to do.

Mr Zwane said PRASA needed to speedily deal with suspensions and ensure that people did not continue to draw salaries for sitting at home.

**ISSUED BY THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMUNICATION SERVICES ON BEHALF OF THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT CHAIRPERSON, MR MOSEBENZI ZWANE.**