**MEDIA STATEMENT**

**AD HOC COMMITTEE ON SECTION 25 SET TO MEET ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REPORT**

**Parliament, Wednesday, 10 February 2021 –**The Ad Hoc Committee to Initiate and Introduce Legislation Amending Section 25 of the Constitution today adopted its amended programme to deal with the drafting of the constitutional amendment.

The committee finalised its nation-wide public hearings late last year, where it sought the input of the public on what form or format the constitutional amendment should take, which will see the expropriation of land without compensation.

Today the committee resolved to attempt to meet at least twice a week in order to meet its deadline of next month to finalise and adopt the amendment Bill. Committee Members requested access to the volumes of written submissions made on the matter.

Committee Chairperson Dr Mathole Motshekga assured Committee Members that they are fully entitled to view all written submissions and therefore they will be made available to Members. Furthermore, he assured all political parties represented on the committee that their inputs will be treated equally, irrespective of the size of the party.

Regarding concerns that the committee meetings are likely to clash with other committee meetings, Dr Motshekga requested Committee Members to prioritise this committee. “The land question is a build or break question for our country. We need to ensure that we deliver to the aspirations of all South Africans, black and white.” He assured Members that clashes have been avoided wherever possible.

The committee will meet on Friday to consider the report on the public participation and thereafter deliberate on the Bill until 12 March 2021. According to the programme, the committee is likely to adopt the Bill on the constitutional amendments by 19 March 2021.

**ISSUED BY THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMUNICATION SERVICES ON BEHALF OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE TO INITIATE AND INTRODUCE LEGISLATION AMENDING SECTION 25 OF THE CONSTITUTION, DR MATHOLE MOTSHEKGA.**