**DR. KINGSLEY**

**MAHLASELA MAKHUBELA.**

12 March 2021

Speaker of the National Assembly, The Honourable Tyotyo Hubert James

PO Box 15,

Cape Town,

8000.

By; email:mzibeko@parliament.gov.za

**Re: Misrepresentation to the Portfolio Committee by Brand SA**

Dear Chairperson,

By way of introduction, my name is Lucas Mahlasela Makhubela, commonly known as

Kingsley Makhubela. I am 59 years old and have been working in the public service for

twenty-seven years now, serving at different management levels, first as Director, Chief

Director, Deputy Director-General and Director-General. My service was only at the

national departments and limited to the now Department of International Relations and

Cooperation. I had the pleasure to also serve as South African Ambassador to Portugal

and High Commissioner to Kenya. I was also fortunate to serve as a Director-General of

the National Department of Tourism for five years. My last public service function was

as the Chief Executive Officer for Brand South Africa (a schedule 3a entity of the state)

from 01 August 2015 to 31 July 2021

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I have spent the best part of my youth life in exile with the ANC, where I served in

different functions, including the head of security for the late OR Tambo.

I hold a Masters Degree in Diplomatic Studies and a PhD in Political Science from the

University of Pretoria. My PhD thesis was on conflict resolution: state failure, intractable

conflict and ethnicity. My case study was the Somali state failure. I then developed

what I describe as Third Generation Civil Militia Groups Theory to analyse Somali state

failure, collapse and disintegration.

I am writing this letter to the Honourable Chairperson to bring to your attention a

matter of concern related to a presentation made to the Portfolio Committee on Public

Service and Administration on 10 March 2021 by Brand South Africa. According to the

Business Day article of 10 March 2021, the Chairperson of the Board, Ms Tandi Tobias,

made the presentation. If the Business Day article's content is a true reflection of the

Portfolio Committee's presentation, then Brand South Africa has made half-truth and

misrepresentation to the Committee.

Honourable Chairperson, Ms Tobias is said to have informed the Portfolio Committee

that "the previous CEO of Brand South Africa, Kingsley Makhubela, was suspended in

2019 over allegations of misconduct. An independent disciplinary hearing recommended

that he be fired, but he was allowed to finish his contract, which expired at the end of

July 2020".This presentation by Ms Tobias is factually incorrect and misleading.

The fact of the matter is I took a voluntary leave of absence from 20 April 2018 to 19

May 2018, and what transpired following that is a matter that I will urge the competent

parliamentary authority to investigate and to prevent any future blatant abuse of power

in the public entity space. The details of what transpired at Brand SA are contained in a

document here attached. Furthermore, Ms Tobias failed to disclose to the Portfolio

Committee that the disciplinary process was not independent as alleged by the previous

Board; the process was manipulated by Mr Stavros Nicolaou and Ms Khanyisile

Kweyam; who dared to document in details the appointment of a presiding officer

outside supply chain regulations and requirement processes; following instructions they

gave to supply chain to rescind an independent process of appointing a presiding

disciplinary officer;

Similarly, Ms Tandi Tobias misled the Portfolio Committee when she claimed that Brand

South Africa allowed me to finish my contra following the recommendation that I be

fired; the fact of the matter is the Executive Authority, the late Minister Jackson

Mthembu, dismissed the recommendation of guilty and dismissal after having subjected

the Board's presentation and my presentation to what was reported by City Press 16

August 2020 as saying, "The Ministre's response to the Board's decision was informed

by the Trust deed, the body of information provided to him by Makhubela and the

information provided by Brand SA; The Minister subjected the matter to legal scrutiny

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