**MEDIA STATEMENT**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE CONCLUDES INTERVIEW PROCESS FOR INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF INTELLIGENCE**

**Parliament, Wednesday, 9 February 2022 –**The Joint Standing Committee on Intelligence (JSCI) today concluded the interview process for the position of the Inspector-General of Intelligence (IGI).

The committee undertook this interview process in order to nominate a suitable candidate before the end of the term of office of the current IGI on 31 March 2022. The committee interviewed 10 candidates over a period of two days. The committee had initially shortlisted 12 candidates from the applications; however, two candidates withdrew before the interview process began.

All the shortlisted candidates were subjected to a screening process by the State Security Agency (SSA) and the successful candidate will be vetted by the SSA should he or she not possess the required level of security clearance.

The candidates were interviewed on the relevant sections of the Constitution, the Intelligence Services Oversight Act 40 of 1994 (the Act) and other relevant legislation, the High-Level Review Panel report findings and recommendations and related matters.

Some of the matters dealt with included, amongst others, their fitness to occupy the Office of the IGI (OIGI), the independence of the OIGI, legislative review, powers of the IGI, human resource capacity of the OIGI, the relationship between the IGI and the three cabinet ministers responsible for intelligence, cooperation with the intelligence services and other institutions providing oversight and challenges that are currently plaguing the OIGI, of which some were ventilated at the Judicial Commission of Inquiry into the allegations of State Capture (Zondo Commission).

The committee sends its gratitude to all the candidates for availing themselves for this process and for the professional manner in which they conducted themselves during the interviews.

After deliberations, the committee will submit the name of the nominated candidate to the National Assembly for approval by a resolution supported by at least two-thirds of its members. The approved candidate will then be appointed by the President as the IGI in terms of section 7(1) of the Act.

**ISSUED BY PARLIAMENTARY COMMUNICATION SERVICES ON BEHALF OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE, MR JEROME MAAKE.**

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