**MEDIA STATEMENT**

**MINERAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY COMMITTEE RESCINDS DECISION TO HOLD INQUIRY ON ALLEGED CORRUPTION IN APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT POWER PRODUCER BIDDERS**

**Parliament, Tuesday, 8 March 2022** – The Portfolio Committee on Mineral Resources and Energy has rescinded a decision taken last year to conduct an inquiry into the allegation of corruption and malfeasance during the process to appoint preferred bidders in the Risk Mitigation Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (RMIPPPP).

This resolution was taken following legal opinion from the Parliament Legal Service Division. The opinion referred to a High Court judgement that dismissed with costs an application to set aside the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy's decision to appoint preferred bidders for the RMIPPPP.

Parliament's legal services division interpreted the court judgement to mean that the department's decision to appoint preferred bidders was above board, thereby making an inquiry a futile exercise. It is on this basis that the committee has rescinded its decision to conduct an inquiry.

**ISSUED BY THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMUNICATION SERVICES ON BEHALF OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON MINERAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, MR SAHLULELE LUZIPO.**

For media enquiries or interviews with the Chairperson, please contact the committee's Media Officer:
Name: Mr Justice Molafo