**MEDIA STATEMENT**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON AG NOTES SPECIAL AUDIT ON FLOOD DISASTER IN KWAZULU-NATAL AND EASTERN CAPE**

**Parliament, Thursday, 19 May 2022 –** The Standing Committee on the Auditor-General  today received a briefing from the Auditor-General (AG) of South Africa, Ms Tsakani Maluleke, on the audit framework for the disaster relief funds in KwaZulu Natal (KZN) and Eastern Cape provinces.

The committee has noted that the office of the AG is ready to conduct this special audit in the provinces and has designed a series of real-time audits that it has already started in an effort to prevent, detect weaknesses in controls, and report on findings within a short space of time.

When the AG reports, she will be able to provide insight not only on what has been allocated and reprioritized but also on how the spend is being governed. The AG has informed the committee that she will look at all three spheres of government.

Nationally the AG will audit the departments of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation, Transport (including Sanral), Public Works and Infrastructure as well as the South African Social Security Agency. In the provinces the AG’s focus will be on human settlements, education, social development, public works and health.

In local government, the AG will focus specifically in KZN and the Eastern Cape. In KZN the AG’s focus will be on eThekwini Metro, Ugu District, Umgungundlovu District, uThukela District, King Cetshwayo District, uMkhanyakude District, iLembe District and Zululand District. In the Eastern Cape the AG will focus on the OR Tambo District.

The committee has derived some sense of comfort from the assurance that the audit work has already begun. The committee is also encouraged by the positive attitude the AG is displaying as it conducts its work.

Furthermore, the committee hopes that all the spheres of government involved will work together through intergovernmental relations, in ensuring that the work of rebuilding these communities is done effectively, efficiently and in a prudent manner, to realise the required value for money.

**ISSUED BY THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMUNICATION SERVICES ON BEHALF OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE AUDITOR-GENERAL, MR SAKHUMZI SOMYO.**

For media enquiries, please contact the committee’s Media Officer:
**Name: Ms Faith Ndenze**
**Parliamentary Communication Services**