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***PROCEEDINGS OF THE MINI-PLENARY SESSION – NATIONAL ASSEMBLY***

***CHAMBER***

\_\_\_\_

Members of the mini-plenary session met on the virtual

platform at 14:00.

House Chairperson Mr C T Frolick took the Chair and requested

members to observe a moment of silence for prayer or

meditation.

The House Chairperson announced that the virtual mini-plenary

sitting constituted a meeting of the National Assembly.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Thank you. Hon

members, before we proceed, I would like to remind you that

the virtual mini-plenary is deemed to be in the precinct of

Parliament and thus constitutes a meeting of the National

Assembly for debating purposes only. In addition to the Rules

of virtual sittings, the Rules of the National Assembly



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including the Rules of debate apply. Members enjoy the same

powers and privileges that apply in a sitting of the National

Assembly. Members should equally note that anything said on

the virtual platform is deemed to have been said in the House

and may be ruled upon.

All members who have logged in shall be considered to be

present and are requested to mute their microphones and only

unmute when recognised to speak. This is because the mics are

very sensitive and will pick up noises that may disturb the

attention of other members. When recognised to speak, please

unmute your microphone and connect your audio as well as your

video. Members may make use of the icons on the bar at the

bottom of their screens which has the option that allows

members to put up his or her hand to raise points of order.

The secretariat will assist in this regard. When using the

virtual system, members are urged to refrain or desist from

unnecessary points of order. We shall now proceed to the

Order, which is a debate on Vote 8: National Treasury

Appropriation Bill. I will now recognise the Minister in The

Presidency.



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**APPROPRIATION BILL**

Debate on Budget Vote No 8 - National Treasury (State

Security):

The MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY: Hon members, chairperson and

members of the Joint Standing Committee on Intelligence,

Deputy Minister Zizi Kodwa, National Intelligence Co-

ordinating Committee, NICOC, Co-ordinator Ambassador Msimang,

Director-General of the State Security Agency Ambassador

Majola in absentia, veterans of the intelligence Services,

distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, let me start by

thanking the hon Speaker and this august house at large for

giving us the opportunity to present this budget policy

statement of the State Security Agency for the financial year

2022-23.

This moment affords us the platform not only to reflect and

account on our previous commitments and performance as an

agency but also an opportunity to assess our strengths and

weaknesses in the mission to fulfil our constitutional

mandate, which is to defend the safety of our citizens and the

territorial integrity of the Republic. In pursuit of the



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constitutional directive, we are guided by the firm principle

that national security is the patriotic duty and

responsibility of the state and the citizens of the Republic.

We hold this principle in the highest regard because the

bedrock of any intelligence service is its ability to connect

with people and to harness their energies in order to achieve

its national security goals. It is for this reason that we

speak of a doctrinal shift in our undertaking of national

security from a state focused, to a national and people

centric enterprise based on the fundamental values of our

Constitution.

One of the surest ways of strengthening the people centric

outlook is to demystify the domain of intelligence. As the

High Level Review Panel observed, the phenomenon of excessive

secrecy has detached us from the pulse of our nation. While

respecting the imperative of the secret nature of intelligence

as a craft, the Constitution enjoins us to be more

transparent, accountable and open to the needs of the public.

Against this background, the civilian intelligence service is

bound to examine the introduction of a fully-fledged public



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awareness and liaison capacity which will drive the

achievement of this strategic objective.

We are meeting at a critical time in the history of our

democratic nation where our people are faced with the most

challenging conditions especially with regard to their safety

and security. This is in addition to the dire threat of

enduring poverty, joblessness and the ever rising cost of

living.

From a security point of view, it is no exaggeration that our

country is gripped by an atmosphere of fear and insecurity,

which is in contrast with the provisions of section 198 of our

Constitution. If nothing is done to turn the situation around,

we will reach the deepest levels of devastation from which it

will be difficult to recover. It is for this reason that the

centrality and posture of our civilian intelligence service

must be enhanced to consolidate the vital rapport between the

people and the state, in defence of our hard-earned democratic

gains.

The marauding gangs in areas like the cape flats, parts of

KwaZulu-Natal, and Gqeberha, who terrorize communities and



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carry out assassinations of individuals, the uncontrolled

influx of illegal immigrants which often leads to violent

clashes with locals because of competition for resources, the

wanton destruction of critical economic infrastructure and the

general lawlessness across the length and breadth of our

country, all constitute the ticking time bomb that we must

never allow to discharge.

We are all aware of some of the underlying causes of this

scourge, some of which were crisply elaborated in the July

Report of Prof Sandy Africa. These include the weakness of

state institutions, high unemployment especially for the

youth, inherited levels of poverty and deep inequality,

rampant corruption at various levels of government, amongst

others.

It is clear that such a situation is untenable for the

sustainability of our country and democracy. The state and

government as a whole must make every effort to implement the

economic reconstruction and recovery program together with

other government interventions to turn our economy around and

uplift the lives of our people.



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If we do not attend to these immediate challenges, we run the

risk of being exposed once again to the unfortunate incidents

of July and no one wants to experience such upheavals ever

again in our country. We therefore need a solid state-led

program with our social partners and the citizens of our

country as a whole to find solutions and rid our country of

the monster of poverty and inequality.

The budget policy statement sets out our national security

priorities and the strategies to ensure the stability of our

country. In this financial year, we continue to focus on plans

to strengthen our capacity to deliver on our mandate, to

reskill and re-energize our workforce to deliver a better

service to our people, and most importantly to reposition the

agency to be a trusted custodian of our national security.

We have an enduring obligation to work together to build a

strong and resilient State Security Agency which should play

the role of a guiding light and guarantor of our safety,

security and prosperity in the country.

I do not need to repeat the observations of the Mufamadi High

Level Review Panel to the effect that we are emerging from a



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prolonged abuse of intelligence capacity, an intelligence

architecture with a posture and structure of operations which

is not responsive to the changed national and global security

landscape and many other deformities in the system.

We must admit without reservations that the progress towards

implementation of the High Level Review Panel recommendations

has been slow and must be expedited without delay. However, a

lot of ground has been covered and many other interventions

are underway to address the issues raised in the report.

As directed by the review panel, we are already at an advanced

stage in the review of our annual planning process in relation

to the budgeting process that ensures clear accountability and

manageability of budgeting, expenditure and performance

against planning priorities and targets.

Later in this financial year, we will release a bigger

turnaround plan for the organization which will address a wide

range of issues identified in the report and other matters

that the organization has prioritized for itself.



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With regard to the disestablishment of the State Security

Agency, I am glad to announce that the General Intelligence

Laws Amendment Bill has been finalized and the roadmap for its

submission to Parliament was presented to the Joint Standing

Committee on Intelligence. It is anticipated that this Bill

will be submitted to Parliament in September 2022.

The Bill will enable the establishment of a domestic arm of

the service to focus on counter-intelligence and domestic

intelligence mandate, the establishment of a foreign service

to focus on foreign intelligence gathering and the re-

establishment of the SA National Academy of Intelligence, as

Schedule 3A government component, to focus on intelligence

training as a critical element of skills development and

capacity-building.

Members will also recall that the report called for the

finalization of the National Security Policy and the National

Security Strategy. I am glad to announce that both documents

were tabled at the SA National Security Strategy, SANSS, and

recommended for internal consultation through the clusters.

The National Security Policy has already been presented at the

Forum of South African Directors-General, FOSAD, and will be



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tabled back to SANSS for the recommendation to the National

Security Council in July. It will then be recommended to

Parliament for the commencement of public consultations.

One of the biggest issues that have stifled the performance of

this Agency has been the matter of corruption and an enduring

culture of misconduct. The Mufamadi report has made specific

recommendations regarding interventions to deal with endemic

incidents of fraud, corruption and misconduct.

A number of interventions have been instituted especially with

regard to the investigation of corruption since the

publication of the Mufamadi Report. Though a great deal of

work has been undertaken, there has been no tangible results

in terms of holding people to account ... the work to uncover

acts of corruption and misconduct has intensified and a number

of individuals have been arrested with others already being

convicted by the commercial crimes courts. In the previous

financial year, we finalized eleven disciplinary cases ...

nine disciplinary investigations hearings are in progress and

we hope to finalize them before the end of the quarter. A lot

still needs to be done including following up on the issues

that emanated from the evidence at the Zondo Commission.



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Our collaboration with the Investigative Directorate of the

National Prosecution Authority has ensured that we cast the

net wider in our efforts to hold people to account. The

forensic investigators are currently investigating 26 cases

within the agency. We are also encouraged by the work that is

being undertaken by our forensic investigation capacity and

are determined that we will succeed in this regard.

In this financial year, we will put more resources towards the

fight against corruption including strengthening partnerships

with fraternal law enforcement authorities. Our march towards

a clean, responsible and corruption free State Security Agency

is unrelenting and we are confident that we will regain our

status as the custodian of national security in this regard.

The President of the Republic, His Excellency Cyril Ramaphosa,

has on several occasions expressed the need for fit-for-

purpose domestic and foreign intelligence services. The fit-

for-purpose intelligence agencies will be mandated to inject

intelligence to assist government in exercising control over

risks, threats and opportunities in the advancement of South

Africa’s national security objectives.



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The task for realizing fit-for-purpose intelligence

capabilities starts with the training of newly recruited

intelligence officers. For this, we seek to use the

Intelligence Officer Development Programme, IODP, to produce

not only well-rounded intelligence officers, but fit-for-

purpose intelligence officers armed with the requisite

competencies - knowledge, skills, and attitudes - based on

eleven fields. The IODP is developed as an internship program

and seeks to provide training to candidate intelligence

officers, commonly known as Cadets.

Hon members, we are excited to announce that there will be a

group of 75 candidate intelligence officers that will undergo

the programme next month. These young officers will be trained

in Mahikeng for a period of 12 months. The programme that they

will undergo is divided into different training fields

including soft-skills development, national security and

intelligence management, building blocks of national security

strategy, alignment of intelligence to government business, as

well as State Security input to government business.

Through our Intelligence Academy, we will continue to provide

education, training and development interventions in order to



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improve efficiency in the conduct of both core business and

noncore business functions. This includes engendering the

country’s constitutional values in the business of the agency;

asserting the principles of sound financial management and

accountability; inculcating and promoting adherence to

operational and corporate-related governance mechanisms and

ethical conduct.

In order to achieve the above, we will ensure that the

continuous conduct of ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon Minister, we have

lost your connection. Can you just repeat and start from the

last sentence that you were busy with, please?

The MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY: Can you hear me now?

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): I can hear you, hon

Minister. Thank you.

The MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY: ... In order to achieve the

above, we will ensure that the continuous conducting of

development research aimed at reinforcing curriculum



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development efforts is in place. Steps will also be taken to

ensure that curriculum development and its implementation are

based on an accurate and reliable needs assessment.

With regard to the current establishment, I am also glad to

announce that we have stabilized the management component with

regard to the permanent filling of posts. As we stand here, we

have filled the one remaining DDG level post which means all

posts at that level are now permanently filled.

We have also filled 21 general manager positions and the

remaining vacant posts at this level are all at recruitment

phase and should be filled by the end of the second quarter.

Thirty-three manager positions have also been permanently

filled and the thirteen remaining are at various stages of

recruitment.

We have also done a great deal of work with regard to the

placement of members who previously did not have positions due

to organizational changes that happened in the past.

The cherry on top is the appointment of the director-general

who had to hit the ground running both in terms of stabilizing



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the organization internally and restoring our relations with

our counterparts around the globe. We are on the road to

recovery and we are confident that we have the requisite will

and energy to achieve our desired goal.

There is a trend that countries redefine their view of

national security, which involves an expanded

reconceptualization of security. This paradigm shift is the

result of our major changes in our society with regard to:

Technology; perception of threats; interpretation of human

rights; and ownership of telecommunications.

This has led to a shift towards more proactive and preventive

measures against threats such as international terrorism,

transnational organized crime, in other words pre-emptive

intelligence. For South Africa to align with the global

trends, in the medium-term, we will be focusing on building

and strengthening capability and capacity for a relevant

Signals Intelligence as well as reinforcing the legislation.

Electronic or telecommunications technology crimes have been

on an upward increase. The advancement of electronic

communication technologies introduces both new opportunities



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and challenges. The convergence of the 5G, Big Data, Internet

of Things and Cloud Computing Technologies; requires

significant research and adaptation to lawful interception

solutions.

The technological developments have made internet an

increasingly important part of our lives. In an effort to

strengthen cybersecurity, the national communications will

continue to build and strengthen capability and capacity in

order to proactively combat emerging cyber threats and

potential cyberattacks. The increased incidents of cybercrime

require a comprehensive approach on cyber security to protect

the country’s critical network infrastructure.

The growing usage of the over the top services, due to their

end-to-end encryption, remain a challenge to the

infrastructure for lawful interception through the Office for

Interception Centres. In recognition of this, the process of

upgrading the Lawful Interception Monitoring System, with

advanced state-of-the-art technology that will enable the OIC

to deliver a value add service is underway. The system will

further strengthen the crime fighting capacity of the law



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enforcement agencies, and the prosecuting arm of the state to

successfully prosecute cases.

The National Treasury and the Criminal Assets Recovery Account

have made funds available for SSA to develop and implement

targeted cybersecurity awareness and training programs within

the law enforcement agencies and prosecutorial authority. In

so doing, SSA will be accelerating the implementation of the

National Cybersecurity Policy Framework which incorporates the

development of the cybersecurity legislative framework and the

establishment of an integrated cyber capability and capacity.

The Cybersecurity Bill is being finalized and will be

submitted for Parliament processes in this financial year.

The current technological environment renders it necessary for

the Office of the Interception Centres to keep abreast of the

latest developments within the telecommunications space. In

recognition of this, the OIC has established a Research and

Development committee geared towards engaging various

stakeholders and advising the OIC on the establishment of a

research and development capability, and implementation of

relevant 4th industrial revolution programs and beyond, to

ensure a sustainable OIC lawful interception capability. There



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is also significant progress in the process of establishment

of the cyber security centre within the State Security Agency.

On the RICA judgement, the undertaking we are making is that

we intend to implement key provision which are responsive

response to the constitutional judgment, and the deficient of

the RICA provisions as they pertain at the moment.

Hon members will recall that South Africa deployed its troops

in Mozambique as part of the SADC Mission in Mozambique,

SAMIM, on 15 July 2021. This was a mission to support the

Republic of Mozambique to combat terrorism, acts of violence

and extremism carried out by insurgents of Ahl as-Sunnah wa

al-Jama’ah since October 2017.

Since its deployment, SAMIM has registered a number of

milestones, including recapturing villages, dislodging

terrorists ... which has contributed to creating a relatively

secure environment for safer passage of humanitarian support.

Going forward, the South African government will continue to

support efforts to deal with these terrorist acts in the



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region because our own stability is inextricably linked with

the stability of the region.

The other important matter of national security that we need

to clarify involves the repatriation of South African citizens

from conflict zones ... ISIS operatives to enter our borders.

That allegation is without substance; the reality is that we

are obliged by both domestic and international law to take

care of our citizens wherever they may be around the globe.

Section 21(3) of the Constitution provides that citizens have

the right to enter and remain in, and reside anywhere in the

Republic. However, ... foreign military assistance act is

appropriately sanctioned.

The same can be expected with our citizens that are trapped in

the ongoing conflict in Ukraine. The war in Ukraine is a

global crisis that should be stopped from any further

escalation ... add what voice and effort we can as a country

towards this historic task.

It has become clearer that institutions ... Global peace,

equitable development and conflict prevention and management



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require all the elements that underpin justice, independence,

predictability, equality of all nations before principles and

fair censure.

Too often, many lives have been lost in wars ... that hardly

censured the strong as evenly as ... proxy and hybrid wars

because of conflicting interests amongst or between the strong

that the existing institutions and systems for global

governance cannot effectively mediate, adjudicate and resolve

in an independent, just, predictable and fair manner.

The challenges that humanity and countries are already facing

that are only going to become more acute from climate change,

a growing global population ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Thank you, hon member,

hon Minister, the network is not very stable. I will allow you

to start with the issue that you raised from climate change so

that the hon members on the platform can hear what you were

saying about it. If you can kindly just repeat that and then

move to your conclusion, please.



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The MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY: Thank you. The challenges that

humanity and countries are already facing that are only going

to become more acute ... urbanization, inequality and global

pandemics call for a movement towards a ...

In conclusion, House Chairperson and fellow South Africans,

with this Budget Vote, we want to assure South Africans that

when it comes to national security, no South African will be

left behind. Thank you for the opportunity, hon House Chair.

Mr J J MAAKE: Chairperson, Minister, Deputy Minister and my

colleagues, every year around this time we do Budget Votes. We

all know how important this is for the functioning of the

government departments. But in our debates we seem to be

repeating whatever we said the previous years which means that

even if there are some improvements in the service delivery by

the departments, but the progress is very slow. The Joint

Standing Committee on Intelligence is established in terms of

section 2 of the Intelligence Services Oversight Act, Act 40

Of 1994.

Dr M Q NDLOZI: On a point of order, Chair. Chairperson, again,

we cannot hear the hon Maake. I am wondering if it is my



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network or he is also suffering from the same networking

incapabilities like the previous speaker. We didn’t hear

anything from the first part of the speech.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon Maake, may I

request that you start your speech again, please. We will

reset the clock. Just start from the beginning again. It is

important that members know what the other members are

debating in this Budget Vote debate. Could you just start

again, please?

Mr J J MAAKE: Hon Chair of Chairs, every year around this time

we do Budget Votes. We all know how important this is for the

functioning of the government departments. But in our debates

we seem to be repeating whatever we said the previous years

which means that even if there are some improvements in the

service delivery by the departments, but the progress is very

slow. The Joint Standing Committee on Intelligence is

established in terms of section 2 of the Intelligence Services

Oversight Act, Act 40 Of 1994. The purpose of the committee is

to perform an oversight function over the intelligence and

counter intelligence functions of the services which include

state security agency, the intelligence division of the SA



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National Defence Force - the Defence Intelligence - and the

Defence Division of the SA Police Service - known as Crime

Intelligence. Even though not categorically mentioned in the

Act, the committee also perform oversight o the financial

intelligence centre.

Section 3 of the Intelligence Services Oversight Act, Act 40

Of 1994 provides that the committee amongst others in

exercising the oversight responsibility, obtain audit and

other reports from the Auditor-General and consider the

financial statements of the services, consider, review and

make recommendations about corporation, rationalisation and

demarcation of intelligence function performed by the

services, refer any matter in relation to an intelligence

activity which the committee regards as relevant to the

promotion and the respect of the Bill of Refights to the SA

Human Rights Commission.

The establishment of the Joint Standing Committee on

Intelligence, JSCI, as opposed to what existed during the

apartheid era was to prevent the abuse of the intelligence

services by the powers that be, it ensured civilian oversight

of the services in a nonpartisan manner. This Budget Vote



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debate takes place after what was widely termed the July

unrest. During this unfortunate period two provinces of our

country were engulfed with wide looting and unrests, that is,

KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng. During this time two of our

intelligence services, State Security Agency and the SA Police

Crime Intelligence mandated to deal with our domestic issues

were riddled with instability at senior management level. In

the State Security Agency there was no permanent director-

general, DG, and most of the senior managers were acting. We

are hoppy to announce that the situation has changed with the

appointment of the ambassador Thembi Majola as the DG. As the

JSCI we have complete confidence in her ability to lead the

State Security Agency into greater heights.

In the SA Police Service’s, SAPS’s, Crime Intelligence, CI,

the vacancy that resulted from the removal of Lieutenant-

General Peter Jacobs remains. The SA Police Service’s Crime

Intelligence still lacks a permanent divisional commissar. The

Joint Standing Committee on Intelligence is still seriously

concerned with the situation as especially on senior

management.



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We welcome the announcement by the Minister, the hon Cele,

that the new National Police Commissioner has been tasked with

stabilising SAPS’ Crime’s Intelligence. We are looking forward

to having a division that is responsive to the needs of our

people by ensuring that all filled and are safe. The stability

of this division will go a long way to curb elicit mining,

police corruption, human trafficking and drug trafficking.

In relation to the challenges within the State Security Agency

we received assurances from the agency to fill all senior

positions to ensure stability], amends the General

Intelligence Laws Amendment Bill to separate the agency into

foreign and domestic branch and implement the recommendations

made by in the High Level Panel report directives.

We are, however, not happy with the lack of the adherence to

the National Treasury in the preparations of the annual

performance plans, APPs, by the agency to ensure that their

targets are specific, measurable, achievable, reliable and

time bound. The State Security Agency assured the committee

that they will ensure that their targets are smart in the

future.



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The Defence Intelligence continues to do a good work. This

division have to be commended for its continued loyalty and

service to the country. The Joint Standing Committee on

Intelligence is however concerned with the continuous cutting

of the budget of this division. The Intelligence Division of

the Defence Force must gather, correlate, evaluate and use

strategic intelligence for purposes of ensuring national

security. The cutting of this budget make their work very

difficult. Under the Financial Intelligence Centre Act, Act 38

of 2001, FIC, was established as an institution outside the

Public Service but within the public administration as

envisaged in section 195 of the Constitution. The JSCI also

perform oversight over the FIC. The principal objectives of

the centre is to assist in the identification of the proceeds

of unlawful activities and the combating of money laundering

activities in the financing of terrorism - terrorist related

activities. The centre must also make information available to

investigating authorities to the intelligence services of the

SA Revenue Service, Sars, to facilitate the administration and

enforcement of the laws of the Republic.

In conclusion, the ANC supports Budget Vote 8. The committee

however is still seriously worried about the slow pace of the



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implementation of the High Level Review Panel’s

recommendations. The JSCI comprising of members of the

National Assembly and the NCOP faces constant challenges of

meeting dates and times. There is always clashes of meetings

between portfolio committees and select committees in the

NCOP. This result in JSCI’s meetings not able to quorate.

Because of this the JSCI is usually unable to take decisions

and very often it causes roll over of agenda items from

meeting to meeting. As suggested by the High Level Review

Panel and the legacy report of the previous committee, the

committee needs dedicated members to this committee. Again,

given the demands of intelligence oversight, the idea of a

dedicated capacity for the JSCI needs to be explored further.

This recommendation needs to be implemented by Parliament as

they have been signed off by the President of the country. In

conclusion, once more, the ANC supports the budget.

Mr D KOHLER: Hon House Chair, there is only one question

really: How much longer are South Africans prepared to wait?

It took years to complete the High-Level Review Panel Report

in which it we finally saw confirmation of the open secret of

the looting via the State Security Agency. And here we are

four years and a Zondo Commission later, and nothing. Where is



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our money? We need it. Our schools, clinics, hospitals, police

stations, roads, bridges – it is all collapsing and not a cent

of those billions has been recovered.

As far as I’ve ascertained the only criminal charges that have

been laid in my particular arena are those that I logged at

the Cape Town Central police station on 3 March this year.

These were against one Arthur Fraser. It was under his watch

as Deputy Director for Operations at the SSA that the

Principle Agent Network was established. Millions, if not

billions of Rands were reportedly siphoned off or spent

irregularly, and the DA has requested South African Police

Service, Saps, to investigate possible criminal offences. If

ever there was a treasonous act, this would be it.

Given the political climate of the day, and the zero-tolerance

stance South Africans are now apparently taking against

corruption and political interference, I’m hoping that Saps

will do its utmost in investigating these and so many other

charges against Fraser. Bear in mind that two previous charges

we laid simply disappeared without trace. The revelations, day

after day, at the Zondo Commission, confirmed every word that

has ever been written about the State Security Agency – the



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suitcases of money walking out the door, the so-called

robberies of millions as people used the SSA safe as an ATM,

the politicians involving themselves in operational matters.

Gun on hip 007 wannabes.

Despite the HLRP report, despite the Zondo Commission, those

behind the multibillion Rand looting have lived fine, rich

lives, on huge fat salaries, for years and years and some have

retired and are living off of huge fat state pensions – with

those extra millions of ours ensuring their retirements are

exceedingly comfortable.

After the smoke cleared, the Ministers behind the catastrophic

lack of Intelligence before the multibillion-rand ANC-

factional coup attempt caused unrest in KwaZulu-Natal and

Gauteng last year, were held to account like this: Left for

pastures new, been promoted, and left untouched.

The fact that this country was caught with its pants around

its ankles has confirmed our global laughingstock status. The

downhill slide which began when the Head of Interpol – our

very own Jacki Selebi — was jailed, is now plummeting at warp

speed. A 10-year-old on the internet would have realised



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something big was up, but our highly paid intelligence

services seemingly didn’t look, understand or were so busy

with their in-fighting than to protect the citizens of our

country. Hundreds of people died and businesses and lives were

ruined as a result.

Having worked on the Joint Standing Committee on Intelligence

for nearly three years, I must say I have never, in my 18

years in Parliament with some five portfolios behind me, seen

a committee that appears to be undermined by both officials

and Ministers. I’ve looked from every angle but have no other

option but to conclude that it is deliberate. This committee

is a shadow of what it could be and should be. I believe that

the fact that meetings are held behind closed doors is the

main factor. Would Saps be late or present an indifferent APP

and budget to the police portfolio committee? Never. Yet, the

section of Saps that answers to the JSCI, Crime Intelligence,

would. If the presentations of the State Security Agency were

held before television cameras, I’ve no doubt they would

arrive on time, and present along specific, determined

Treasury Guidelines.



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There are officials — perhaps flaunting that same hoary old

chestnut that they earn more than Members of Parliament, MPs,

and have permanent jobs unlike MPs — who either can’t or won’t

do the work. More dangerously one has to ask if there is a

possibility that they deliberately hide information from the

JSCI. Certainly, no reference is ever made to the Zondo

Commission revelations.

I have deliberately left Defence Intelligence out, as they

deliver quality product on time, despite annual budget cuts.

If the past 28 years taught us anything at all, it is that

government — no matter who is at the helm — cannot and should

not be allowed to govern without meticulous oversight. Yet

doing effective oversight on this committee is like fumbling

drunk through a hall of mirrors. Around the world equivalent

agencies are accountable to the Congress and the Senate, or

various upper houses. Yet here, not so much. In fact, hardly

at all. South Africa simply cannot afford this veil of secrecy

over specifically the SSA. It goes against the HLRP report’s

edicts, but nothing has changed; nothing is out there. Except

what is leaked in the spy vs spy dirty linen exposés.



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There are those who will argue that if we had a coherent,

professional intelligence cluster, we would never have had two

Ministers and a Deputy Minister held hostage in Pretoria as

they were in October last year. Intelligence should have known

that the struggle war veterans were going to do something

dramatic, and where were the so-called VIP protection

personnel? That three Ministers were put in a position of

extreme danger, tells us our Intelligence Services learned

nothing from their failures. And the cherry on the top of a

massive pile of irritation is that the NPA has simply dropped

all charges. This government’s idea of a speedy implementation

is to make an announcement, then wait four years, then

establish a commission, then wait two years, and then hope

everyone has lost interest. Promises are made but just not

kept. Recommendations are made but not implemented, or done so

slowly that entire five-year Parliamentary terms pass, and so

does the expertise and institutional knowledge about the

subject matter. That is how this game is played. That is how

MPs are played.

The HLRP report recommended that there be a shift to return

the role and philosophy of our democratic intelligence

capacity back to their constitutional origins. It had of



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course been criminally warped during the Zuma years to serve

anything but this country. Yet we’ve seen a Minister bring

back people on suspension and promote them – some say on the

instruction of the President, and now another Minister has

popped out the revolving door that sits at the entrance of

this Intelligence Ministry, and is trying to clean up that

mess. Rinse, wash, repeat. As far as anyone knows, further

billions are still streaming out of the SSA via the hands of

those employed by that agency and given to people who have no

right to it. Where is the investigation into the involvement

of members of the national executive in intelligence

operations? Who knows? Reports emerge, questions are asked,

then ignored or shoved under the carpet.

Here’s a prime example of carpet stuffing: On 1 September it

was claimed that an ANC MP, Dr Harvard, was possibly spying

for China, sharing classified information about our country

with the Chinese Communist Party. And this report allegedly

comes via a leak from the sieve-like State Security Agency.

So, I wrote to the President, who was then the de facto

Minister of State Security, asking that this report be

released. After that, radio silence.



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Before the Jackie Selebi era which opened the doors to a

veritable tsunami of maladministration, corruption and theft,

our intelligence services not only served the nation, but had

a fine reputation globally. This committee, DA and ANC members

alike, works hard and works together in the hopes that we may

claw that reputation back from the depths into which it has

been plunged. Frankly, if I’d had my way we would not have

debated today, and left these departments to whistle for their

budgets. Thank you, House Chair.

Dr M Q NDLOZI: House Chairperson, the state of our

intelligence services, civilian intelligence in particular, is

now to be assessed in light of the global balance of forces as

imperialist interests collide in the Ukraine Russia war — a

proxy war between Russia and NATO. Most recently the United

States has explicitly stated that it would directly

participate in defence of Taiwan should China invade it. Of

course, a few decades ago, although totally in support of

Taiwan, it was unimaginable for a US sitting President to make

such a statement, at least from a diplomatic point of view.

Here in our country, we have to be cognisant of the

implications of this outright warmongering by imperialist



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forces. Since World War Two there has been a successful

diversion of this confrontation between world powers into

proxy wars like in Vietnam and Angola. Since the fall of the

Soviet Union, the US and NATO have been the only military game

in town. Examples abound from Afghanistan to Libya and Syria.

Nevertheless, since the Ukraine, a white European country,

western powers are looking for confrontation with Russia and

or China. And for such a confrontation, they are looking not

to take place in their own countries but in a proxy country

elsewhere. We are NATO’s target for a propaganda war in

support or justification of the war efforts. This seeks to

change our thinking completely in favour of NATO, a Euro

American war alliance, to think of them as a global moral ...

[Inaudible.] ... engaged in a just war.

These issues are however of almost minimal concern for our

intelligence community. It is not possible to discern how our

intelligence services are responding to this proliferation of

propaganda efforts within our country by imperialist forces.

Recall the time when Zimbabwe’s land revolt occurred and

President Mugabe conceded to a land reform programme, the west

mobilised many formations from non-governmental organisation,



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NGOs, up to and including trade unions — the precursor to a

military invasion of Zimbabwe, which President Mbeki

successfully resisted. We must ask what objectives of such an

effort, in relation to the Ukraine are, and may very well be

that our public and consciousness is being prepared for an

even bigger war — a confrontation of the real world powers.

If such a confrontation takes place, we may be asked to pick a

side, and since bias media propaganda has been in favour of

NATO, our people may, in their numbers, seek to join a war in

favour of NATO. There have been so many invasions, wars and

conflicts in Africa, Middle East and East Asia yet the white

dominated DA has never taken so keen an interest as we have

seen in the Ukraine. This obviously racist bias must be named

for what it is. For the DA white lives matter more than those

black Africans in particular.

But relevant to our discussion, this visit by the leader of

the DA to the Ukraine must have us ask intelligence state

security and national security concerns. Is or are they

positioning themselves as a threat to national security? The

South African intelligence community will be caught with its

pants down in this intelligence infiltration, even within the



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ranks of Parliament, Cabinet and strategic bodies like the

Rapid Deployment Intelligence, RBI.

Even with the global pharmaceutical industrial complex, its

general approach is prioritising profits over global heath.

our intelligence services have had no ability to process these

threats. That is why we can receive outdated or soon to be

outdated or soon to be expired vaccines.

Above all, the very fact that there is monopoly over western

vaccines is itself a key intelligence concern which does not

even arise within the services. This is because as a start the

SSA is still to regain its stability and rid itself of corrupt

elements, rogue agents and overpoliticisation across all

services.

There is yet to be any arrest and successful prosecution of

those who looted secrete accounts and resources of the

service. Since the publication of the High Panel Report, not a

single arrest has been made. This lack of accountability on

corruption basking in the high echelons of the state remains

the weakness of the President Ramaphosa government. People who

demonstrate utter incompetence are simply shifted around.



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There is ample evidence of not only incompetence but lies,

complicity and possibly involvement of the SSA and CI in the

July unrest. Still, nothing has happened to any of these

elements. The SSA APPs came less than a year after the July

unrest but no pragmatic intelligible plan is in place to clean

the agency by surrendering rogue elements to prosecution.

How will we know that the SSA is stabilising? Is when key

spies at the highest echelons of the agency are being

prosecuted for the ... [Inaudible.] ... capabilities for

political ends. Merely moving SSA into Presidency has yielded

no fruits yet, except possible involvement of it in the run up

to December ANC conference where the current head of State

needs to defend his head.

Above all and across all intelligence agencies, there is zero

competence in the cybersecurity capabilities. As a country we

are rated in the top 10 countries in the world who are

susceptible to cyberattacks. In the age of convergence our

country cannot afford to be under capacitated in terms of its

cyber security oversight.



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At the centre of politicisation and general organised crime,

is also a well-organised network of assassination gangs —

people who are trained and employed to be assassins. They kill

from the ordinary tender conflict in townships, up to and

including drug contestations. Many politicians also employ

assassination services of these criminal networks. There is

very little hope that assassinations will ever be dealt with

precisely because politicians, in settling their contestations

over state resources or internal political party battles, use

and sustain assassins. How then are we to align ourselves to

giving any of the tax payers money to this entity when all it

has ... [Inaudible.] ... so incompetent is the SSA that its

APP is not aligned to National Treasury regulations, and the

budget does not have an articulation with sub-operational plan

with largely unintelligible targets. The EFF outrightly

rejects this budget. Thank you very much.

Inkosi R N CEBEKHULU: Hon Chair of Chairs, South Africa, the

region, continent and world face unprecedented and widespread

political and socioeconomic instability. Violent extremism is

spreading and is, in fact, already establishing itself upon

our borders and within our country. Such has been further

enabled due to growing poverty and inequality, challenges



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associated with transition towards democratic governance and

the failure of our defence and security sectors to modernise

and stay abreast of technical innovation and advancement.

The enemies of our fragile democracy remain within and outside

of our borders, and be under no illusion, their devious and

treasonous objectives are supported by the very best

technology and human resource capital that money can buy.

State security, with its necessary culture of secrecy has a

long and painful history in South Africa. The same question or

conundrum always arises. Who will guard the guardians? Who

will ensure that our largely unaccountable state security

apparatus is not politicised and weaponised against the very

institution it is established to protect.

Another serious challenge faced by our state security

apparatus is that of information gathering and ensuring the

information obtained is correct, in respect of the current

security threats and emerging security threats in Africa. Our

focus must not only be on identifying and analysing the

correct data, but additionally, on communicating this

information to the relevant structures with the Justice, Crime



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Prevention and Security, JCPS cluster, thereby ensuring that

such critical information is timeously acted upon by

government.

The role of Parliament in democratic civilian security-sector

governance has never been more critical, as we advance the

security of our citizens. Are we as parliamentarians utilising

the numerous tools of oversight available to us as

legislators, to hold the state security apparatus to account?

Are we scrutinising the budget effectively? Is there even

sufficient information available to us to reach into what some

might term the Pandora’s box of secrets and secret

expenditure? Transparency and accountability of state security

of the citizenry, without compromising the nature of the

mandate of state security must be confected, to ensure that

shadow government with shadow policy is not resourced and

capitalised.

All security branch operators and services are subject to the

Constitution, the Rule of law, and should be conducted in the

best interest of the safety and security of the people of

South Africa and the democracy of South Africa.



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State security has been utilised in past to cause criminal

activities upon our own people for the purposes of controlling

by a few. The game did not change with the end of apartheid,

only the players changed.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon member, we cannot

hear you. Please, switch off your video, so that we can have a

possible better audio feed ... [Inaudible.]

Inkosi R N CEBEKHULU: South Africa needs ...Can I finish?

In conclusion, the IFP supports the Budget Vote, subject to

the above serious concerns. We support the establishment and

the function of the state security apparatus, ... [Inaudible.]

... whose objective is the interest of the people of South

Africa. I thank you.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): For the members who

are going to follow, it seems that right from the beginning,

we are experiencing difficulties with the feed coming through.

So, please, you don’t have to switch on your video, if you

experience connectivity problems. It is more important for us

to hear what you say.



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Mr N SINGH: Hon Chairperson, we will make the ... [Inaudible.]

... the point that you make. Thank you.

Dr P J GROENEWALD: Hon Chair, the members of the Joint

Standing Committee on Intelligence must have a clearance

certificate to be a member. They are vetted, they are then

classified with a secret classification, because of the State

Security Agency and the work that they do.

However, now, if we look at the Deputy Minister, the hon Zizi

Kodwa, it came quite clear from the Zondo Commission that he

owes a certain person a R1,7 million and that, by the words of

the hon Deputy Minister himself, he is not in apposition to

repay that amount in the near future.

I cannot understand how it is possible that the Deputy

Minister for the State Security Agency can have a secret

clearance because he is compromised. He is in fact a security

risk for the State Security Agency, but still he is the Deputy

Minister of State Security.



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I therefore appeal, and I know that it is in the hands of the

hon President, to ensure that the Deputy Minister immediately

steps aside. He is compromising the security of South Africa.

There was quite a lot of controversy around the State Security

Agency, but still we continue with creating these

circumstances, which actually indicate to the public that we

are not going to do anything about it.

If we look at the response of the High-level review panel,

then they have mentioned a couple of matters. For instance,

they referred to secrecy and said that there is too much

secrecy that actually hampers accountability towards

Parliament. It also said, for instance, that the agency was

used for the faction infighting of the ANC and that it

actually became a cash cow for certain people and the misuse

of the State Security Agency.

*Afrikaans*:

Toe die Agentskap oorgeskuif het onder die Presidensie was

daar gesien dat daar ’n redelike kans is dat daar ’n

verbetering gaan wees. Die vraag wat egter nou ontstaan ...

Met die Adjunkminister wat ’n risiko is in terme van die



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sekuriteit en die veiligheid van die Agentskap self; die feit

dat ons nou sien dat daar nie meer openheid en

verantwoordbaarheid teenoor die Parlement is nie; die hele

werksaamhede nogsteeds in streng geheimhouding gehul is, soos

wat die paneel bevind het, ’n oormatige geheimhouding wat

onnodig is, onstaan daar nou ’n vraag. Die feit dat daar nie

opgetree word nie, die feit dat daar nie behoorlike

hervormings gedoen word nie, is die vraag: Is die

Staatsveiligheid-agentskap nou in die hande van ’n ander

faksie binne die ANC?

Hoekom word hulle beskerm? Is dit nou weer ’n geval dat ons

nou ook sien dat sekere mense beskerm word, seker mense in

posisies gehou word?

*English*:

If the hon President wants to create confidence in the State

Security Agency that they will be objective, then he must act

and he must act swiftly, or else you cannot blame the people

if they say that yes, it is now a different story, these are

now the President’s men that will see to him. I thank you.



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Ms M C DIKGALE: House Chairperson, hon Ministers and Deputy

Ministers, Members of Parliament, compatriots, ladies and

gentlemen, the strengthening of the security apparatus of the

country is necessary for the maintenance of peace and

stability in our country. The South African National Defence

Force and its division such as the Defence Intelligence play a

critical role in defending the sovereignty of our country as

well as providing support through peacekeeping missions across

the continent.

The creation of a better Africa and a better world requires

that we have a defence force with the requisite capacity and

skills. The Defence Intelligence is a division of the South

African Defence Force mandated by the Constitution of the

Republic of South Africa, as well as several Acts of

Parliament to provide defence intelligence, counter

intelligence and international co-operation services, in

support of activities, in pursuit of national security

objectives.

The Defence Intelligence continues to good work to serve the

citizenry. The Defence Intelligence, under the leadership of

General Mxakato, ought to be applauded for its exemplary



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commitment to accountability and oversight. This division

ought to be applauded for its continued loyalty and service to

the country.

The men and women of the Defence Intelligence, DI, do

extraordinary work with very little resources. The Defence

Intelligence has a historic challenge with capacity and has

previously cross-utilised resources to achieve projected

targets. Despite this, the Defence Intelligence has achieved

all its targets for 2020-21.

Efforts must be made to increase the DI’s capacity. This can

be done by recruiting young skilled officers who are fit for

purpose through the military skills development programme.

A key accomplishment in the 2020-21 financial year was to

introduce the Bachelor of Military Science in Defence

Intelligence, which will be taught at the Military Academy. We

congratulate the DI and welcome this initiative. This will

positively contribute to the calibre of intelligence officers.



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Additionally, the DI managed to set in motion plans to deal

with the vetting backlog, which has yielded some positive

results. This is welcomed.

The men and women of the DI have, for years, been subjected to

working in a condemned building. This matter has finally come

to an end through the intervention of the Joint Standing

Committee on Intelligence, JSCI, and the Minister of Public

Works, and the DI will soon be properly accommodated.

Despite these challenges, the officers of the DI have served

with vigour and commitment and ought to be applauded and

thanked for their hard work, despite difficult circumstances.

The DI tabled its APP at and proposed budget on time and

complied with all prescripts. The DI’s plans for the coming

financial year give a measure of assurance that the DI is

committed to contributing to the Apex priorities of building

social cohesion and safe communities, a capable, ethical and

developmental state and a better Africa and a world.

To this end, based on historic performance, and proposed

budget allocation, the annual targets for 2022-23 are



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achievable. The DI intends to focus on the following in 2022-

23: defence intelligence, counterintelligence, international

co-operation services in support of activities, in pursuit of

national security objectives, which are to strengthen its

cyber security capacity, to increase its intelligence and

vetting products. The ANC supports the Budget Vote of the

National Treasury. Thank you very much.

The DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY (Mr N G Kodwa): Thank

you very much, Chair of Chairs, hon members, Chairperson on

the Joint Standing Committee on Intelligence, JSCI, members of

the JSCI, hon Minister in the Presidency, hon Mondli

Gungubele, the National Intelligence Coordinating Committee,

NICOC, Ambassador, Msimang, Director-General of the Agency,

Thembi Msimang, the Veterans of the Intelligence,

distinguished guests, fellow South Africans, let me also take

this opportunity to thank this House for affording us an

opportunity and the space to present our Budget Policy

Statement for the financial year 2022-23.

The Minister has given a broad overview of the state of

national security in the country, and what our posture should

be, as the State Security Agency, SSA. However, before I



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expand on these broad issues, I want to begin this address by

condemning in the strongest terms, Chairperson, the pandemic

of gender-based violence which has become another threat to

our national security. The extent of abuse and gruesome

murders of women and children in this country, cannot be

tolerated and requires all of us in government, civil society

and citizens in general to work together to uproot this

scourge.

The unspeakable act of violence and abuse against Namhla Mtwa

from Umtata, as a case in point, is something that our society

should never allow. The other important issue that our

democratic society must deal with decisively, is this

phenomenon of racial polarisation, which continues to rear its

ugly head across all sectors of our society. We chose to adopt

a constitutional democracy because we wanted to build a

cohesive and prosperous nation, free of discrimination and

prejudice. We cannot abandon that noble objective, for the

simple reason that, our Constitution enjoins us to, amomg

others, heal the divisions of the past and establish a society

based on democratic values, social justice and fundamental

human rights.



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Racial intolerance and prejudice must be fought and eradicated

because it is a cancer that stifles instead of building a

prosperous nation. Let me just amplify some of the few issues

that should inform the agenda of the Agency as espoused by the

Minister Statement. It is true that the High Level Review

Panel Report on the State Security Agency has decried the

issue of excessive secrecy, and that we should adopt a mind

shift that is more accessible, open and responsive to the

needs of the public. Inspired by our founding values of

accountability, responsiveness and openness, our Constitution

guarantees the rights of everyone to access to information and

essentially, the right to know.

This places a fundamental responsibility on the Agency to be

transparent, accountable and responsive to the public whilst

safeguarding the basic tenet of secrecy as an intelligence

outfit. As such, we will be engaging on a large scale program

of public engagements and outreach with a variety of

stakeholders both within and outside the security

establishment to share ideas about the state of our national

security. As the Minister mentioned earlier, the process to

finalise the National Security Policy as well as the National

Security Strategy, is at an advanced stage, and shortly, both



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these strategic documents will require an input from the

members of the public.

We will kick-start the public consultation process without

delay, and that should be a springboard for our quest to

create a people centric environment towards giving

intelligence a human face. We will return to this House,

through the Joint Standing Committee on Intelligence, JSCI, to

present our comprehensive program of public awareness and

stakeholder engagements. The other important matter that the

Minister highlighted, was the concern raised by the expert

panel report, which probed the circumstances that led to the

July unrest that erupted in KwaZulu-Natal and parts of

Gauteng. This relates to the centrality of the role that the

NICOC plays in the early warning system of our intelligence

environment.

The report has noted, which is now Prof Sandy’s Report, with a

great deal of concern, that despite NICOC’s warning through

the National Intelligence Estimates and the National

Intelligence Priorities, the entirety of government seems not

to be responsive to these alerts. In this regard, we would

like to impress on you, hon members, and the rest of



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government to heed the warnings and calls from NICOC to attend

to the issues as contained in the National Intelligence

Estimates and the National Intelligence Priorities.

This includes among others, human security challenges and

general service delivery matters that the people constantly

cry for. If we are to avoid a recurrence of the incidents of

July and other potential upheavals into the future, we have no

choice but to focus seriously on what the NICOC is directing

us to do. Prof Sandy’s Report, which brought the July incident

of last year, was right. Had we taken time to address the

issues that were identified by NICOC in its early warning, we

would probably have avoided most of these conflicts and

upheavals as we have seen in July and elsewhere. The growing

levels of poverty, inequality, lack of service delivery and

social tensions, which have been aptly identified in this

report, were all underscored in the National Intelligence

Estimates and National Intelligence Priorities.

Hon Chairperson, we are concerned about the state of our

national security in the country, and yes, we need a renewed

focus and vigour to deal with pervasive atmosphere of chaos

and wanton disregard for the law. We are redoubling our



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efforts together with our relevant law enforcement agencies to

combat these mindless acts of violence, economic sabotage and

lawlessness. The destruction and sabotage of critical

infrastructure and National Key Points, including the cable

theft and mindless targeting, and torching of state

institutions must come to an end.

Perhaps, hon members, we need to go back to basics and create

and recite our fundamental values as a country as espoused in

our founding document which is the Constitution of the

Republic. Section 198(a) provides that, I quote:

National Security must reflect the resolve of South

Africans, as individuals and as a nation, to live as

equals, to live in peace and harmony, to be free from

fear and want and to seek a better life.

Section 9(2) of the Constitution provides that, and I quote:

Equality includes the full and equal enjoyment of all

rights and freedoms. To promote the achievement of

equality, legislative and other measures designed to



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protect or advance persons, or categories of persons,

disadvantaged by unfair discrimination may be taken.

This is what guides our National Security Policy, which seeks

to achieve a national security framework, that is consistent

with the Constitution and with a specific focus on human

security as a priority, National Security Agenda. As required

by the Constitution, the policy proposes measures that would

enable the achievement of a national security framework which

gives effect to the constitutional imperatives that we have

mentioned which includes among others the following measure:

Measures that seek promote South Africans, as individuals and

as a nation, to live as equals and to live in peace and

harmony.

Measures that seek to enable South Africans, as individuals

and as a nation, to be free from fear and want. Measures that

seek to promote South Africans, as individuals and a nation,

to seek a better life. In this regard, hon Chairperson, we

need to use our National Security Policy to craft

interventions focusing among others on: The role of the

National Security structures in countering corruption within

government and organs of state. Measures to clarify the role



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of National Security Agencies in the delivery of the basic

services to all South Africans, with specific focus on social

services directed to the poorest of the poor. Measures to

counter organised crime and threats to national security.

Measures to promote the security of critical infrastructures

systems of the state that are the backbone of the provision of

critical and essential social services. Measures and the role

of the national security structures in youth development and

employment opportunities, national service and programs

intended to promote empowerment inclusion and participation in

particular in relation to city and rural economies. Measures

that seek to promote our foreign policy initiatives as an

instrument to advance national security agenda. Measures to

promote cooperation by all national security structures, in

the pursuit of the envisaged national security agenda.

Measures directed at preventing gender-based violence as a

national security focus. Measures aimed at promoting public

and private partnership in the pursuit of the National

Security Agenda envisaged in the Constitution. Measures aimed

at promoting environmental, natural resources, including

oceans and energy security, and lastly, measures aimed at



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countering organised crime and threats to national security.

We have to do all of these things, hon Chairperson and hon

members, to achieve our Constitutional obligation, which is to

safeguard the safety of our citizens and the territorial

integrity of the Republic.

I must conclude, Chairperson, by reflecting on another

important issue and focus area of our state security, which is

counter terrorism across continents, an increased terrorism

footprint on the African continent, an increased terror threat

in the SADC region, as well as notable challenges posed ...

[Inaudible] ... national terror threat level requires

rethinking of the country’s counter terrorism measures and

architecture. The reports about the alleged criminal

underworld and the financing of terror groups in the country

emanates from this reality.

To restore the territorial integrity of our country ...

[Inaudible] ... of organised crime. We are equally concerned

about the current activities of ... [Inaudible] ...

[Interjections.]



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The ACTING CHAIRPERSON (Ms R M M Lesoma): Hon Deputy Minister,

I’m afraid your time is up.

The DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY (Mr N G Kodwa): Thank

you very much.

The ACTING CHAIRPERSON (Ms R M M Lesoma): We have a very

terrible network. Thank you so much. Hon members, we shall

proceed. I recognise hon Hadebe of the ANC.

Mr B M HADEBE: Hon Acting House Chairperson, hon Deputy

Minister, hon Chairperson of the committee, hon members and

colleagues, we are gathered here today, a day before we

commemorate Africa Day, a reminder of how far our continent

has come and how true intelligence services. Many of our

nations have seen the dawn of democracy and continue to enjoy

safety and security provided by such institutions. Hon Deputy

Minister, you have just quoted a very relevant clause in our

Constitution that says:

National security must reflect the resolve of South

Africans, as individuals and as a nation, to live as equals,



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to live in peace and harmony, to be free from fear and want

and to seek a better life.

Now hon Minister, this quote finds expression in the National

Development Plan, Vision 2030, NDP which seeks to confront the

triple challenges of poverty, unemployment and inequalities

through stimulating economic growth. In this regard, the State

Security plays a very critical role in assisting government to

achieve its strategic objective. If positioned and resourced

correctly, the State Security Agency will be the country’s

chief risk advisor, equipped with to guide and forewarn on

matters of national security.

It is critical colleagues, to remember that this budget vote

happens at a time when the country is experiencing numerous

challenges, both domestically and internationally. The slow

economic growth which contributes to the high unemployment,

poverty and equality, crime, a fight for limited resources and

a societal intolerance such as racism we witnessed in

Stellenbosch University. This a university of white supremacy

which impedes on social cohesion, national identity and pride

are just but a few of these examples.



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Despite this, hon Acting House Chairperson, the ANC-led

government has taken demonstrated steps in strengthening the

civilian and society service with the relocation of the State

Security Agency into Presidency. This is a very welcome move

because this centralisation will assist in strengthening the

civilian intelligence environment and will provide critical

strategic leadership when needed. Similarly, the appointment

of Ambassador Thembisile Majola as the new Director General is

highly welcome.

*IsiZulu*:

NgesiNtu ke sithi, igama lamakhosikazi malibongwe.

*English*:

This is not only that she is a female but her track record

speaks volume about her unquestionable credentials. Hon Acting

House Chair, this budget vote takes place 10 months after the

2021 unfortunate intelligence failure on the July unrest. As

such, central to the State Security Agency are the plans to

ensure reforms and strengthen the agency to provide effective

intelligence as to forewarn our government on matters of

national security.



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Although faced with many challenges, the State Security Agency

has committed in terms of the General Intelligence Laws

Amendment Bill the implementation of the recommendation made

in the High Level Review Report on the State Security Agency

and to deal with maladministration decisively. Hon Acting

House Chairperson ...

*IsiXhosa*:

... ohloniphekileyo uKohler-Barnard makayeke wethu ukuyibaxa.

*English*:

She says it took years to complete the High Level Review

Report and that is not true. The panel was established by

President Cyril Ramaphosa in June 2018 and it was made public

on 9 March 2019. So, it cannot be many years. Amongst the

recommendations in the High Level Review Report were that the

State Security Agency has to urgently institute forensic and

other investigations by competent authorities into the breach

of financial misconducts and other controls identified in the

agency. This is especially in relation to the principal agency

work, projects and other operations leading to disciplinary

and criminal prosecutions.



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Again, I have also listened to hon Dr Ndlozi who is saying to

us that, across all services there is no single arrest made.

However, hon Chair, in this regard the State Security Agency

has appointed an independent forensic firm accordingly to

investigate all suspected cases of malfeasance, corruption and

criminality in the agency. As a result, we have witnessed the

convictions of a number of employees including a former SA

Airways, SAA clerk Ms Kgaogelo Bopape who stole R170 000 and

was sentenced to six years’ imprisonment.

We are also committed to mass recruitment through the cadet

project which will augment the capacity of the agency. The

agency is going to implement vetting strategy. This will

enable the agency to root out elements of corruption within

its rank. In order to achieve the planned objectives, we call

upon the senior management in the State Security Agency to

work together with the newly appointed Minister and the

Director General. There ought to be a synergy and a decisive

adherence to prescripts and framework with regards to Annual

Performance Plans, APPs.

I want to call a spade a spade and not a digging tool.



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*IsiXhosa*:

Andikwazi ukugquma umbona ngamakhasi.

*English*:

We note with serious concern that from time to time, the

agency consistently submits their APPs very late. This weakens

the oversight processes and make the committee life difficult

to work. Again this year, it has continued to demonstrate such

by continuing to submit their APPs late. We want to the State

Security Agency’s senior officials to ensure that this comes

to an end. We welcome the improvement, when it comes to the

APPs, because in the previous financial year, they submitted

targets that are not smart. My colleague, also has alluded to

the fact that, this financial year there has been some

improvement even though not all of their targets are smart.

This must come to end. When we talk about smart targets we

talk about targets that are specific, measurable, achievable,

relevant and time bound.

We call upon the newly appointed leadership, the Minister and

the Director General not to hesitate to institute consequence

management against all the senior officials who are not

properly executing their duties. If they continuously submit



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their APPs very late, we call upon the Minister to act harshly

and decisively.

Hon Chair, the preamble in the NDP espouses that South Africa

belongs to all her people and the future of our country is our

communal future. Thus it remains a collective responsibility

to ensure that safety and security of our country becomes our

most relevant priority. It cannot be that safety and security

will be only left at the hands of the State Security Agency.

All South Africans have a role to play in ensuring that our

country is safe. In conclusion, the State Security Agency

remains committed to contributing to contribute to the apex

priority which is to build a capable, ethical and

developmental state, economic transformation, job creation and

education skills. The ANC supports this budget vote. I thank

you.

*Afrikaans*:

Mnr D J STUBBE: Agb Voorsitter, Minister, kollegas en lede van

die onderskeie veiligheidsentiteite, die vraag is: Waar moet

vandag se begrotingsdebat begin? Die veronderstelling was dat

die onderskeie jaarlikse prestasieverslae en -begroting van

die Staatsveiligheidsagentskap, die Verdedigingsintelligensie,



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SSA, en Polisieintelligensie, SAPS CI, tydig op geskeduleerde

datums aan die Staandekomittee vir Intelligensie, JSCI,

voorgelê moes word, maar helaas is dit nie gedoen nie,

aangesien SAPS CI en die SSA nie aan die spertye voldoen het

nie.

Dit is nie toevallig nie, maar is endemies aan die onvermoë om

na behore te funksioneer en om die JSCI se oorsigfunksie in

die wiele te ry.

Ten opsigte van DI is daar merkbare pogings om aan behoorlike

verslagdoening te voldoen en moet sekere vereistes ten opsigte

van hul begroting aan die Tesourie se voorskrifte aandag kry.

Wat SAPS CI aanbetref is dit duidelik dat die situasie

ongesonde is. Die entiteit is twee keer deur die JSCI terug

verwys, nadat die Minister te kenne gegee het dat hy geen

dokument onder oë gehad het nie en dat hy nie enige dokument

afgeteken het nie, alhoewel sy handtekening op die dokumente

verskyn.

Amptenare se goeie werk word ongedaan gemaak deur seniorlede

wat steeds in hul eie magstryd gewikkel is. Die SSA is ook nie



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beter daaraan toe nie en hul begroting voldoen glad nie aan

die vereistes wat die Tesourie gestel het nie, wat meebring

dat die jaarlikse prestasieverslag nie na wense is nie. Die

afgelope paar jaar toon ’n merkbare verswakking.

As ons die sitsuasie ontleed, het die agteruitgang alreeds in

2009 begin onder Minister Siyabonga Cwele, deur sy goedkeuring

van die sogenaamde Principal Agent Network, soos ingestel en

beheer deur Adjunkdirekteur-generaal, ADG, van operasies,

Arthur Fraser. In sy termyn, het Jeff Maqetuka, Gibbon Njenje

en Moe Shaik bedank, omdat hul ondersoek na die Gupta-broers,

wat al sedert 1993 as immigrante besighede in SA begin het,

afgekeur is. Die vraag ontstaan of staatskaping nie sy

ontstaan te danke het aan Cwele se versuim om op te tree nie.

Die agteruitgang is voortgesit deur Minister David Mahlobo,

Bongani Bongo, Dipuo Letsatsi-Duba, en Ayanda.

Daar was vyf Ministers in 12 jaar, terwyl daar sewe DG’s

sedert 2009 tot nou aangewys is. Geen intelligensiediens kan

funksioneer met so ’n omset van Ministers en DG’s nie.



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Die toksiese sitsuasie in die SSA het ontstaan toe Arthur

Fraser as adjunkdirekteur-generaal met medewerking van Cwele

en Mahlabo die sogenaamde, Pan-projek gebruik het om groot

bedrae geld te bekom vir verskeie onwettige operasies, onder

meer Operasie Mayibuye waarvan R2 miljoen tot voordeel van

Jacob Zuma was. Toevallig is Fraser in 2016 deur Zuma as DG

heraangestel.

Die misbruik van geheime fondse vir projekte is nooit gestaak

nie. President Ramaphosa was genoodsaak om die

hoëvlakhersieningspaneel aan te stel, nadat sensitiewe

inligting na die media gelek is.

Die panel, onder leiding van Dr Sydney Mufamadi, het ná

deeglike ondersoek ’n verslag opgestel waarin feitlik alle

ongerymdhede in die SSA ontbloot is. Ongelukkig is die tyd te

min om al die vergrype aan staatsgeld hier te noem, maar in

hul getuienis voor die Zondo-kommissie word gemeld dat R105

miljoen vir aankope van geboue voorgeskiet is, R244 miljoen

vir ’n projek waar Thulani Dlome by betrokke is, asook R19

miljoen in kontant aan die vooraand van die ANC vergadering te

Nasrec. Mufamadi het ook getuig dat David Mahlobo kwitansies

geteken het vir ongeveer R80 miljoen wat hy in kontant ontvang



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het. Bogenoemde bedrae is nooit in enige begroting van die SSA

openbaar gemaak nie.

Minister, soos reeds gesê, die Zondo-verslag verwys na

vergrype deur seniorpersoneel verbonde aan die SSA. Tot op

hede was daar nog net ondersoeke en is niemand inhegtenis

geneem nie, maar hulle was wel geskors met volle salaris. In

kontras word ’n voormalige finansiële klerk wat skuldig

gepleit het dat sy R170 000 gesteel het in hegtenis geneem en

tronkstraf opgelê.

Minister, hoe regverdig is dit teenoor die belastingbetalers

van Suid-Afrika dat swendelaars bestaande uit sommige

Ministers en hoëlui amptenare biljoene Rande misbruik het

sedert 2018 en steeds in die SSA werksaam is? Kan u die land

verseker dat hierdie persone ook tronk toe sal gaan? Ek dank

u.

Mr J J MAAKE (ON BEHALF OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP OF THE

MAJORITY PARTY): Hon Chair of Chairs, I am reading the speech

on behalf of the Deputy Chief Whip, who is not well. Hon

Chair, the SA Police Service Crime Intelligence's Annual

Performance Plan, SAPS-CI’s APP, flows from the national



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policing strategy which aims to promote a holistic

multidisciplinary approach to create a safe and secure

environment that is conducive to social and economic

stability, supporting a better life for all.

This APP is drafted in the backdrop of the 2021 July unrest,

which saw the failure of intelligence services. South Africans

have been asking a critical question: But, where was

intelligence when this was happening?

The reality is that people have lost faith in the intelligence

services, and this is a reality South Africa cannot afford.

There is an urgent need to reform and strengthen capacity in

our intelligence services, particularly SAPS-CI.

Intelligence must be targeted, timely, and yield positive

results.

Crime Intelligence must be a key contributor to prosecutions.

South Africans can no longer be expected to accept statistics

that: 400 rape cases are related to domestic violence; or

10 000 people are brutalised and sexually violated in just

three months in South Africa; or people continue to be victims

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of specialised crimes like money laundering, cybercrimes,

cash-in-transit robberies, to list a few. This is a disgrace

and deeply disturbing.

It cannot be that South Africans accept that the majority of

people raped are women and those most vulnerable in our

society. It is time that crime intelligence is focused on

serving the citizens. Although it remains our collective

responsibility to champion safety and security, however, those

charged with the responsibility to serve and protect must do

so earnestly.

It must be mentioned that the lack of a permeant head of SAPS-

CI is concerning and must be dealt with as this destabilises

the effectiveness of the service. Similarly, key management

positions must be filled.

It gives a great deal of assurance to see that SAPS-CI has

diligently aligned its targets and outcome to address the

criminality prevalent in our society. It is clear that the

SAPS-CI aims to decisively deal with and focus on: Crimes in

relation to critical infrastructure and illicit mining;

intensify efforts to reduce the prevalence of cash-in-transit

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heists; other aggravated crimes; combat cybercrime; commercial

and financial crimes; economic threats; and threats to the

state.

SAPS-CI must be commended for drafting an APP that seeks to

respond to matters of national security, although improvements

can be made. In order to achieve the planned objectives,

senior management needs to work together with the Minister and

the National Police Commissioner. There ought to be a desire

to work effectively.

The Deputy Divisional Commissioner for Crime Detection must

concur with the Minister on matters at all material times. The

SAPS-CI failure to meet legislative deadlines is concerning.

These delays weaken the oversight process and our role as

members of the JSCI.

On focus areas, the Minister of Police mentioned that there is

a demonstrated plan to deal with the instability in the SAPS-

CI. The appointment of a National Police Commissioner will

help in providing strategic guidance to SAPS-CI. However, the

appointment of a Divisional Commissioner is yet to be

finalised.

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The National Police Commissioner has already made strides to

stabilise the environment. For instance, the planned

decentralisation of SAPS-CI has been halted. This decisive

leadership ought to be applauded. There is a concern with the

continued underexpenditure in SAPS-CI whilst there are many

crimes. This must be addressed and ensure that all funds are

appropriately utilised.

The SAPS-CI, in its APP mentioned that executive authority is

a risk to the effectiveness of its work. This shows that there

is a bad working relationship between the Ministry and SAPS-

CI. This ought to be addressed to ensure the effective

functioning of SAPS-CI.

The SAPS-CI is undercapacitated. There is an urgent need to

recruit capable officers who are fit for the purpose. This

should be prioritised as it has a direct effect on crime.

SAPS-CI’s APP does not fully comply with government

regulations as it does not include a detailed budget. This

must be addressed.

Targets need to be improved to include issues, such as crimes,

happening at the borders. The SAPS-CI has repeatedly



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underspent on its capex yet more funds are being requested.

Such financial mismanagement must be dealt with. Management

must ensure the effective utilisation of all funds.

There is an urgent need to upgrade the cyberinfrastructure.

This is critical given the nature of crimes. There is a need

for SAPS-CI to foster a closer relationship with the Financial

Intelligence Centre, FIC, as money crimes have increased and

become more sophisticated.

The SAPS-CI overspends on certain line items, and underspent

on others. Proper budgeting and financial management are

required in this regard. There is a need to look into cross-

border crimes. These must be incorporated into the APP, as

border provinces, such as Mpumalanga and Kwa-Zulu Natal, are

facing serious challenges. Hon Chair, the ANC supports the

Budget Vote!

The MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY: Thank you, Hon Chair. I wish

to acknowledge and accept the robust engagement where this ...

[Inaudible.] ... Budget Vote that we have tabled. We

acknowledge all those. Our attitude is to be an open agency,

especially against the background where we come from.



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Of all the challenges that have found expression in the Prof

Mufamadi Report and also Prof ... [Inaudible.} Report, and a

number of others structures, including ... [Inaudible.]

Against that background, our story is a very good story. We

take an attitude that it will be useful to listen at all

material times when these robust and frank discussions are

meant to critique our work. We believe that is the only way we

can be able to improve.

Just to say few issues, hon Chair, I think we take the point,

especially from the chair of the JSCI, that the remarks made

on the High Panel Review, in terms of speed and acknowledgment

of the fact that all top management posts, especially at home,

have been filled. The fact that we have to do to a lot of work

on this smart principle, we just want to make this point that

it is a theological issue that we have to do.

It is time! If you don’t understand our baseline, it means you

don’t see what we are trying to change. If you don’t see what

we are trying to change, it means our engagements will not

make sense. Therefore, that speaks for the indisputability of

smart principles. We are committed and making an undertaking

that urgently, we will attend to that.



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There has been a point of demystification. I have raised that

in my space. The Deputy Minister has raised it. We are quickly

going to be actually seized with, just to make sure that we

only make secret in this agency that which is secret; and that

which is overt, we take society along to exploit their

strength in giving us a stronger impetus as we move forward.

The issue of us being disrespectful: I thought we are trying

our best on this one, and we will continue. I thought the

member, Barnard, will say at least there is an attempt. I hope

we will meet again.

The hon Radebe, on the issue of an ethical state: That point

is taken. Indeed, hon Ndlozi should know the fact that arrests

have been made in some areas. Lastly, having acknowledged and

accepted the input by the hon House, we do make this

undertaking that we commit to make a difference.

I just want to say to hon Ndlozi: Whilst we appreciate a lot

of useful points that came from the opposition, once tablet to

the JSCI, we don’t know whether his view will demand ...

[Inaudible.] Ukraine ... [Inaudible.] [Interjections.]



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The point we would like to make as my last comment on the ...

[Interjections.]

Ms H O MKHALIPHI: Yes, Chair! We need to hear the Minister ...

[Inaudible.]

The ACTING CHAIRPERSON (Ms R M M Lesoma): One second! Raise

your hand, hon member, then I will recognise you! Hon

Mkhaliphi! One minute, hon Minister! Hon Mkhaliphi!

Ms H MKHALIPHI: Yes, Chair! Sorry, I am using a gadget which

is giving me problems. I am saying we didn’t hear the Minister

when he was responding.

The ACTING CHAIRPERSON (Ms R M M Lesoma): Okay, thank you very

much. Hon Minister, there is a gesture that you do, and then

you get frozen in between your points. If you may just try to

be in one position, if possible. You may repeat because you

still have got some one minute that is left.

The MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY: Are you able to hear me now?



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The ACTING CHAIRPERSON (Ms R M M Lesoma): Loud and clear!

Thank you so much.

The MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY: I would say in my last, having

committed an undertaking that I will take home all the

critical points made by the committee. On the Ukraine issue, I

wanted to say that whilst we accept a number of points made by

hon Ndlozi; we are saying this presentation was done on

Thursday. We are not sure whether if he was exposed to that,

he would still have the same views.

However, the point we want to make is that our ...

[Inaudible.]

The ACTING CHAIRPERSON (Ms R M M Lesoma): Hon Minister, may I

just allow you to switch off your video, because you seem to

have a network challenge.

The MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY: How am I now?

The ACTING CHAIRPERSON (Ms R M M Lesoma): I think it will be

better!



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The MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY: So, I want to say that in the

global situation, our attitude is that the kind of a country

we are, considering our geolocation and our strength, we

always tactically position ourselves in a manner that can make

us influential across the entire globe.

The success of global peace is when all the parties who

actually matter in this space can actually listen to you. We

avoid giving an impression that we have got strength that we

do not have. We muster that we should or can actually champion

superior views – views that ... [Inaudible.] ...

[interjections.] ... enhancing our contributions are. Thank

you very much hon Chair. We appreciate the entire submissions

and the entire engagement by the House. Thank you very much.

The ACTING CHAIRPERSON (Ms R M M Lesoma): Thank you very much,

hon Minister. Hon members, you are reminded that the Debate on

Employment and Labour Budget Vote 31; and the Police Budget

Vote 28, including Investigative Directorate Budget Vote 24

and Civil Secretariat for the Police Service Budget Vote 21,

will take place at 16:30 on the virtual platform. You are

kindly reminded to log in at 16:30.



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Debate on Budget Vote 8 – National Treasury: State Security,

concluded.

The mini plenary session rose at 15:48.

