**MEDIA STATEMENT**

**COMMITTEE FOR SECTION 194 BRIEFED ON SARS INVESTIGATIVE UNIT MATTER BY EVIDENCE LEADERS**

**Parliament, Saturday, 15 April 2023 –** The Committee for Section 194 Enquiry into Public Protector (PP) Adv Busisiwe Mkhwebane’s fitness to hold office was led through evidence before it yesterday by evidence leaders on the South African Revenue Service (SARS) Investigative Unit matter.

Evidence leaders took the committee though  affidavits and responding affidavits from the PP Adv Busisiwe Mkhwebane, primarily  on the SARS Investigative Unit matter. The evidence leaders presented a range of documents and affidavits as well as court judgements where they showed discrepancies in the Public Protector’s reports and alerted the committee about questions it should pose to the PP.

The committee also dealt with high court Judgements where the PP was criticised for overreliance on other reports and the manner in which she obtained the report of the Inspector General of Intelligence. Evidence leaders also took the committee through parts of the Sikhakhane and Nugent Commission of Enquiry report pointing out similarities between those reports and the PP’s reports.

The Chairperson of the committee, Mr Qubudile Dyantyi, thanked members of the committee for their commitment and dedication to their work. Mr Dyantyi also said, in respect of the ongoing legal fees issue, "we are working towards the decision on the resumption of the inquiry and factoring time for closing arguments, member’s questions and evaluation of evidence”.

The committee is expected to continue next week on Tuesday. The committee was established on 16 March 2021 to conduct a constitutional inquiry into the PP’s fitness to hold office and is now expected to conclude its work towards the end of May 2023. Committee documents can be found at [Committee for Section 194 Enquiry - Parliament of South Africa](https://parliament.us15.list-manage.com/track/click?u=174940c63c5e06b60f5650bea&id=aae28a8322&e=da105e4f6a)

**ISSUED BY THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMUNICATION SERVICES ON BEHALF OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE FOR SECTION 194 ENQUIRY, MR QUBUDILE DYANTYI.**

For media enquiries or interviews with the Chairperson, please contact the committee’s Media Officer:
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