**Budget Vote 8: National Treasury**

Remarks by

**Hon. Inkosi Mzamo Buthelezi, MP**

Tuesday, 16 May 2023: National Assembly

Honourable Chairperson,

It is widely understood by many sitting in this house that the mandate of the National Treasury remains clear.

To ensure fiscal sustainability, effective and efficient management of our country’s resources. To put in place measures for financial control, and accountability and provides an overall financial framework for all national, provincial, and local government departments and entities.

Chair, while this mandate is of critical importance to the functioning of our economy, it must be said that even though Treasury might be well run and effective, all other departments in all spheres of our government are simply the opposite.

It may be all good and well with one department, but if all others are failing and near total collapse, what are our efforts any worth?

It surely is proven beyond any shadow of a doubt that what is happening within all failing government departments right now is the very same thing happening to the ruling party internally. The two are inextricably linked.

Therefore, Honourable Chairperson, we need not speak of mere recommendations made by this Committee on what is to happen within the National Treasury, as these remain exactly that, “recommendations”.

No interventions will work to stabilize SOEs if the very same people who are currently failing to deliver in their jobs are used to implement any sort of plan.

Honourable Chairperson, the IFP appreciates Treasury’s commitment and progress in implementing stricter controls through consequence management across the board, and we can only hope that these measures will aid in rooting out the rot within all government departments.

If the commitment of the Finance Minister can be something that governs all the Ministers of departments, and they also commit themselves, our country can hope for a better tomorrow. Unfortunately, that's something we won't see. Instead, we will see more exploitation and misuse of funds because elections are around the corner.

I think, as a committee, we would be making a mistake if we do not put one and only one recommendation that will definitely give us the change we want to see for the people of our country and that is:

The ultimate recommendation therefore would be to elect a new administration come next year’s elections.

Getting rid of the ruling party shall certainly allow for renewed and innovative thinking with fresh ideas to restore our nation’s economy and bring about true, meaningful change and address social and economic injustices.

In considering the budget for Treasury and SARS with all recommendations to be duly implemented, the IFP supports the Committee’s report in adopting Budget Vote 8.

Siyabonga, I thank you.