**DEBATE ON BUDGET VOTE ON HOME AFFAIRS:**

1. Chairperson, the Economic Freedom Fighters rejects the adjusted budget vote of the department of Home Affairs.
2. As a result of the crisis brought about by COVID 19, we have had our border closed, and traveling is limited across the country. This is the right thing to do.
3. But we also have thousands of people from other African nations here who have been waiting here for years for their documentation. The department had purposefully frustrated their attempts at getting documents before, their situation will surely get worse.
4. The expressly anti-African attitude by some South Africans is only an extension of the hatred of Africans shown by the government, represented so well by this department.
5. Chairperson, we as the EFF are unapologetically Pan Africanist in character, in posture and in action.
6. Minister Motsoaledi is an Afrophobe, who while at the Department of Health foolishly said our public health is collapsed by the influx of fellow Africans.
7. Under his guidance, the Department of Home Affairs has only intensified its anti-African posture.
8. It is for this reason that you will never find white people at Lindela repatriation centre, it is always African people who are chucked out of this country by the department of home affairs.
9. This confirms the view held across the continent that South Africa is an anti-black, xenophobic State only too willing to inflict the most unimaginable pain on black bodies.
10. Chairperson, the downward adjustment of the budget by about R562 million will pose a significant risk to the Departments ability to achieve its programmes, especially on service delivery at critical areas such as birth, death registration and issuance of ID Cards.
11. The failure of the department to keep their offices open in hospitals to register births between March and May has led to a significant number of babies born then, who still do not have birth certificates. We still o not know how you plan to resolve that problem.
12. Chairperson, we are supposed to have elections next year. We have made a submission that these elections must be moved to 2024, so that we have a single election for national, provincial and local government.
13. Other than the fact that it will be extremely difficult to organise elections for next year in light of the uncertainties brought about by COVID 19, it also makes logical sense to synchronise our elections.
14. There will be no time to do outreach programmes to encourage people to register for next year’s election. And we cannot do these via online platforms because the majority of voters do not have access to these.
15. There is no certainty that the virus will be over next year, so we cannot plan properly for elections while under the dark cloud of the virus.
16. But over and above this, it makes no logical and financial sense to have elections almost every two years in the country.
17. It makes the country in a permanent elections mode, and this leads to the instability we see everywhere in terms of governance.it leaves little room for service delivery because politicians and officials are forever worried about their positions.
18. So we submit that let us extend the term of local government, up until 2024, and then have national, provincial and local government elections then.
19. We reject this vote