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03 April 2022

Dear Hon Chairperson,

**EXTENSION OF EMPLOYMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL DEFENCE FORCE FOR SERVICE IN FULFILMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA TOWARDS THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY (SADC)**

This serves to inform the National Council of Provinces that I have extended the employment of two hundred (200) members of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) for a service in fulfilment of an international obligation of the Republic of South Africa (RSA) towards South African Development Community (SADC) Maritime security.

200 members of the SANDF were employed to counter the threat of piracy and other related illegal activities in the Indian Ocean. The extension of the employment is for the period 01 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

This employment is authorised in accordance with the provisions of section 201(2) (c) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 read with section 93 of the Defence Act, 2002 (Act No 42 of 2002).

The expenditure expected to be incurred for this employment amounts to R154 000 000.

A close-up of a drop of water

Description automatically generated with low confidenceI will communicate this report to the Chairperson of the National Assembly. I kindly request that you bring the contents of this letter to the attention of Members of the National Council of Provinces.

Yours sincerely,

**Mr Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa President of the Republic of South Africa**

**Hon Mr AN Masondo, MP**

Chairperson of the National Council of Provinces Parliament of the Republic of South Africa

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