



PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
THE SPEAKER

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30 DECEMBER 2020

Ms N W A Mazzone, MP
Chief Whip of the Opposition
National Assembly
Parliament of South Africa
P O Box 15
CAPE TOWN 8000

Dear Ms Mazzone

**REQUEST FOR DEBATE ON URGENT MATTER OF NATIONAL PUBLIC IMPORTANCE
- THE ROLL-OUT OF A COVID-19 VACCINATION PLAN FOR SOUTH AFRICA**

Your letter, dated 29 December 2020, bears reference.

National Assembly Rule 130 prescribes that a member may request the Speaker to schedule an urgent debate on a particular matter, but that the member must motivate why it should be dealt with in terms of this rule and cannot be taken forward by other means. In this regard the rules provide that the Speaker must apply certain criteria when exercising her discretion.

South Africa's participation in the vaccine procurement mechanism, COVAX, is confirmed but the Minister of Health is still to provide details of the vaccine roll out plan. The roll-out of a Covid-19 vaccination plan is a matter of ongoing concern for all South Africans and warrants the continued oversight of Parliament. In view of the fact that the vaccine will now be available in the second quarter of 2021 as indicated by the Executive, I believe this debate should be accommodated when the National Assembly reconvenes in February. The details will be finalised by the National Assembly Programme Committee and as stipulated in the rules.

Yours sincerely,

Ms T R MODISE, MP
SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY