



**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE & MILITARY VETERANS  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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5 March 2012

Mr J J Maake and Mr D Montsitsi  
Co-Chairpersons  
Joint Standing Committee on Defence  
Parliament  
Cape Town  
8000

Fax no: 021 403 3205

Dear Sirs

**REQUEST FOR A BRIEFING – SOUTH AFRICAN AIR FORCE**

I refer to your letter of 2 March 2012, requesting a briefing by the Chief of the South African Air Force on various challenges facing the SAAF.

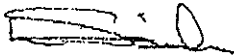
Section 199(8) of the Constitution, 1996 requires that oversight of security services should be done in a manner determined by national legislation or rules and orders of Parliament, because the information required might be classified.

I would therefore require that you urgently provide me with the necessary legislative framework that would ensure the protection of the information being made available to the Joint Standing Committee on Defence, so that I may authorise the South African Air Force to brief yourselves. Without this framework, the Air Force would be in breach of the Constitution and the Defence Act and unable to brief the Committee.

The challenges facing the SAAF are very important and I require them to brief the JSCD on these, as well as its financial implications at the earliest opportunity. The Air Force requires Parliament's support and I therefore urgently need the JSCD to provide me with the necessary assurances of information security, so that the SAAF can brief you.

In addition to the briefing by the SAAF, the SANDF has a number of matters of an operational nature that are reaching a critical stage and which they need to brief the JSCD on. I therefore appeal to you to ensure that the JSCD is legally compliant so that the SANDF can brief it.

Yours sincerely



L N Sisulu, MP  
Minister of Defence and Military Veterans

Cc: Gen S Shoke, CSANDF  
Dr. S Gulube, Secretary for Defence