

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

8 August 2022

## Motion of no confidence against Premier David Makhura a desperation for relevance

The planned tabling of the motion of no confidence by the Democratic Alliance in the Gauteng Provincial Legislature is a clear desperation for relevance and an attempt to remove the spotlight on the instability in their party.

The Gauteng Provincial Government under the leadership of Premier David Makhura, has over the last eight (8) years spent considerable time and effort in introducing reforms aimed at institutionalising integrity and an ethical culture within the government system, one which promotes good governance, transparency, and accountability. The reports that the party alleges to have not seen were tabled in the Legislature and to the broader public.

Some of the reforms made to date include the establishment of the Open Tender System in 2014, the appointment of the civil society-led Gauteng Ethics Advisory Council chaired by Dr Terence Nombembe in 2017, the establishment of the Integrity Management Unit (IMU), in the Premier's Office, as well as the signing of a memorandum of understanding with the Special Investigating Unit (SIU) in 2018.

The memorandum allows for the Office of the Premier to refer serious allegations relating to the affairs of any institution in the provincial government to the SIU for investigation.

However, during the COVID-19 pandemic, these efforts were disregarded, which opened the emergency procurement regulations to abuse, and corruption in Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) procurement and infrastructure projects.

The SIU investigation revealed serious irregularities in the health and infrastructure development departments in the awarding of the refurbishment tender of the Anglo Gold Ashanti Hospital to various service providers. The Gauteng Provincial Government, acting on the recommendations of the SIU placed nine senior officials on precautionary suspension in December 2021 for contravening various legislations regulating public procurement.

The Gauteng Provincial Government has drawn a number of lessons in the work of promoting integrity and clean governance and has taken tangible actions in promoting good governance, working with other institutions and agencies such as the Special Investigating Unit, Office of the Public Protector, Auditor General of South Africa, Public Service Commission, Law Enforcement and Security Agencies.

These lessons and action taken are contained in the state of ethics, integrity management systems, and anti-corruption report, which is a first of its kind by a government institution. This report was released in May 2022.

The Gauteng Provincial Government remains committed to the fight against corruption and ensuring that all those who steal from the public purse face the full might of the law.

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## **Issued by the Gauteng Provincial Government**

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