



PUBLIC PROTECTOR
SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

PUBLIC PROTECTOR CONCERNED ABOUT RECENT MEDIA STATEMENTS BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY'S PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

12 FEBRUARY 2018

The Public Protector, Advocate Busisiwe Mkhwebane, is deeply disturbed that she has to use the media to express her displeasure following the recent media statements issued by Portfolio Committee on Justice and Correctional Services in connection with her work.

The Office of the Public Protector only received official correspondence from the Committee on Monday 12 February 2018 at 14h15, summoning her to appear before the committee. This is despite the fact that a media statement on the matter was issued by the Committee at the weekend already.

The Office of the Public Protector is a chapter nine institution that is established to support constitutional democracy and it is required to be independent, and to perform its functions without fear, favour or prejudice.

The Committee has a constitutional obligation to assist and protect the Office of the Public Protector so as to ensure the office's independence, impartiality, dignity and effectiveness.

Despite the fact that it is not clear to her as to which public utterances will be the subject of the meeting in Parliament on Wednesday, 14 February 2018 at 09:30, Adv. Mkhwebane has confirmed her attendance.

Adv. Mkhwebane respects the National Assembly and understands that her office must report on its activities and the performance of its functions to the Assembly through the Committee.

Issued by

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