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30 May 2016

Honourable Dr Makhosi Busisiwe Khoza

Member of Parliament and Chairperson of the Ad Hoc Committee on Appointment of Public Protector

Per email: mkhoza@parliament.gov.za

And to: Members of the Ad Hoc Committee on Appointment of Public Protector

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Mr Sibusiso Christopher Mncwabe

Per email: smncwabe@parliament.gov.za

Dear Honourable Dr Khoza

Nomination, Selection and Appointment of our next Public Protector

1. We refer to the above matter
2. Corruption Watch (CW) is a civil society organisation that opened its doors to the public in January 2012. We are a registered non-profit company in terms of the Companies Act.
3. [Corruption Watch](#) aims to ensure that the custodians of public resources act responsibly to advance the interests of the public, and to ensure that opportunities for entering into corrupt relationships are reduced. We rely on the public to report corruption to us and we use these reports as an important source of information to fight corruption and hold leaders accountable for their actions.

4. As part of our mandate, Corruption Watch is also committed to supporting and strengthening Chapter 9 institutions that are involved in anti-corruption efforts.
5. In light of the incumbent public protector's term of office coming to an end on 19 October 2016, we have launched a public awareness and participation campaign, entitled Bua Mzansi, aimed at highlighting the appointment process of the next public protector.
6. Section 193(6) of the Constitution provides that the involvement of civil society in the recommendation process for the public protector may be provided for as envisaged in section 59(1)(a)¹ of the Constitution. Thus, we wish to support the work of Parliament by obtaining broad public participation in the nomination and selection process.
7. We would like to congratulate the Members of Parliament who have been selected to serve on the Ad Hoc Committee on the Appointment of the Public Protector, as well as the Honourable Dr Khoza who has been appointed as the chair of this committee. We trust that the committee members will apply their minds in recommending the best possible candidate to serve as South Africa's next public protector.
8. In order to promote transparency and public participation in the process of appointing a new public protector, Corruption Watch requests the ad hoc committee to grant the following permissions:
 - 8.1. To access the long list of candidates who have applied or been nominated for the position of public protector;
 - 8.2. To publish/provide access to the CVs of the shortlisted candidates (Contact details, ID Numbers and any sensitive information can be redacted);

¹ Sections 59 (1) and (2) of the Constitution provide that:

- (1) The National Assembly must –
 - (a) Facilitate public involvement in the legislative and other processes of the Assembly and its committees; and
 - (b) Conduct its business in an open manner; and hold its sittings; and those of its committees, in public, but reasonable measures may be taken –
 - (i) To regulate public access, including access of the media, to the Assembly and its committees; and
 - (ii) To provide for the searching of any person and, where appropriate, the refusal of entry to, or the removal of any person
- (2) The National Assembly may not exclude the public, including the media, from a sitting of a committee unless it is reasonable and justifiable to do so in an open and democratic society.

8.3. To confirm that the interviews of shortlisted candidates will be streamed live via the Parliamentary Television Channel, Parliamentary YouTube account and any other television broadcaster;

8.4. To allow the public to comment and make submissions on shortlisted candidates.

9. We are grateful for the time you have taken to consider our letter and look forward to working with you.

10. If you would like to meet with us to further discuss our campaign and any aspect of our correspondence, please indicate your availability and we will attend to all the necessary meeting arrangements.

11. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Kavisha Pillay

Bua Mzansi Project Manager

Corruption Watch

[Unsigned due to electronic transmission]