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MEDIA STATEMENT

11 FEBRUARY 2019

STATEMENT ISSUED BY JUSTICE LEX MPATI, CHAIRPERSON OF THE PIC COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

The Commission completed the last week of the first public hearings at the end of January and we are compiling the interim report that the Commission must submit to the President by the 15th February 2019.

Since the Commission held its first public hearings, we have experienced a spike in people coming forward to make submissions and we are grateful for the assistance they are giving to the Commission. As we have mentioned previously, the Commission continues to encourage all those with information relevant to its terms of reference to come forward.

We have noted with great concern numerous anonymous messages circulating on various platforms – including emails and on whatsapp – alleging improprieties and implicating various individuals within the PIC or with links to the PIC. This has the effect of unduly putting in question the reputations of those named with no access to the necessary recourse mechanisms. The Commission has stated repeatedly that anyone with information should approach it, through the secretary or the evidence leader, whose contact details are on the Commission's website; that provision is also made for anonymous submissions to the Commission and that in-camera hearings are available to those who, with good reason, do not wish their identity to be disclosed.

The Commission shall continue with public hearings from the 25th February 2019, until the end of March 2019 and beyond. The formidable line-up of witnesses will be shared before resumption of the hearings on the 25th February 2019.

ISSUED BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF COMMISSION JUSTICE LEX MPATI

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