



**MINISTRY
JUSTICE AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**MEDIA STATEMENT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
11 MARCH 2021**

**MINISTER LAMOLA ADVOCATES FOR ISOLATION OF COMPLACENT STATES THAT
DISREGARD INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AT THE KYOTO CRIME CONGRESS,
JAPAN**

Minister of Justice and Correctional Services, Ronald Lamola, intensely urged the 14th Crime Congress recently held in Kyoto, Japan, to petition the International community to develop resilient measures aimed at holding states that disregard binding treaties accountable.

He further alluded to the need for enhanced International cooperation to fight transnational organised crime including illicit financial flows. *“it is the duty of all states to ensure that criminals feel unsafe wherever they run, to evade justice. We cannot allow ourselves to be adjudged to be complicit in creating safe havens for corrupt actors and criminals. Thus, there is a need for vigorous collaboration in repatriation of assets and extradition of criminals who evade justice”*

Minister Lamola stated that strengthening witness protection programmes, cybercrime measures, mutual legal assistance, combating human trafficking and organised wildlife crime as some of the mechanisms that ought to be employed to further address the transnational nature of crime currently which not only affects South Africa but other entire global community.

He concluded by highlighting measures undertaken in the country, in line with previous Crime Congress recommendations and declarations including, strengthening of the Criminal Justice System (CJS), enhancement of trust and integrity in the CJS and modernisation of its ICT in dealing with cybercrime; tackling Gender Based Violence and Femicide as well as eradication of corruption.

For further information:

**Chrispin Phiri
Ministry Spokesperson
Mobile: (+27) 81 781 2261**