



**public enterprises**

Department:  
Public Enterprises  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

### **DPE SLAMS ATTEMPTS TO USE INTERNAL DISCIPLINARY PROCESSES FOR MISCHIEVOUS AGENDAS**

**PRETORIA – 21 June 2024** – The Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) has slammed attempts to use the press to mislead the public about ongoing internal disciplinary matters involving some of its staff.

The DPE is appalled that some rouge elements that have the audacity to peddle misinformation about official internal matters for mischievous agendas.

The DPE reminds the public to be vigilant about being fed uncorroborated and unverified information about the DPE. This is another attempt to frustrate the work of DPE in upholding adherence to the norms, guidelines and procedures that govern personnel and disciplinary matters in the public service.

The latest attempt involves feeding the Sunday World newspaper with untruths and inaccurate information about a disciplinary matter involving the unauthorized appointment of an official to the office of the ex-director-general by two DPE staffers.

The staffers have been accorded the necessary provisions to ascertain the facts that led to the unauthorized appointment. These included an independent disciplinary hearing at which it was found that the department's processes governing appointments were not followed.

As a sanction, the hearing ruled that the involved DPE staffers be demoted or alternatively be dismissed if their appeal was unsuccessful. At the hearing the staffers said they had been instructed by the former DPE director-general to make the unauthorized appointment, an assertion they later recanted, rendering their appeal unsuccessful.

The DPE will not conduct its internal HR processes through the media. Any attempts to subvert the DPE's mandated processes will not succeed. The DPE wishes to reiterate the following facts:

1. All matters pertaining to staff disciplinary actions are the prerogative of the acting director-general as directed by the prescripts and framework of the Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA), which sets the norms and standards to ensure that the state machinery functions optimally, and that such norms and standards are adhered to.

2. In all the processes that involve staff disciplinary actions and other HR matters, the DPE takes its cue from the DPSA.

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