

# Presentation by OUTA to the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Higher Education, Science and Technology

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**OUTA**

ORGANISATION UNDOING TAX ABUSE

**MALADMINISTRATION AND IRREGULAR SPENDING  
WITHIN THE SECTOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING  
AUTHORITIES**

- **OUTA's mandate:**
  - Challenging and taking action against maladministration and corruption
  - Holding government to account
- **Importance of compliance with legislation-**
  - **The Public Finance Management Act:**
    - Transparency, Accountability, and Recourse by government
  - **Skills Development Act:**
    - Overview of SETA's role in South Africa
    - Advancement of learner skills and development

- **Why is OUTA here?**

- Civil society's role in ensuring transparency – watch dog needed in a space where accountability falls short. Revert to the judiciary because of state owned institutions' indifference towards transparency
- OUTA's PAIA application and withholding of information that is in the public interest
- Lack of proper oversight – intervention is needed to ensure accountability

- Awarding of tender for facilitation of stipends and management of BLAMS system
- Non-rendered or insufficient delivery of services:
  - Credibility of SSETA in the educational environment
  - Learners are affected by lack of service from service providers
- OUTA's findings on irregularities and accounts from whistle blowers on BLAMS and stipend receipts
- What has SSETA done to rectify non-delivery by service providers, specifically Grayson Reed?

- SSETA has a duty to recoup funds wasted on irregular tenders to PFMA and ensure their mandate is adhered to
- Cancelling of service level agreement is **NOT** enough to ensure accountability
- Portfolio Committee should take note that the Skills Development Levy is **NOT** utilised for its intended purpose

# Recommendations

Steps to be taken by the Parliamentary Committee and National Executive

- The Portfolio Committee should accordingly take the appropriate steps against SSETA to ensure that maladministration is halted indefinitely:
  - Administration in terms of the Skills Development Act
  - Probe into further allegations of maladministration and mismanagement
  - Consider OUTA's inputs in the appointment of future boards
- SSETA should be held equally accountable in instances where non-compliance with governing legislation and procurement policies are prevalent (i.e. CETA)

# CONCLUSION

End

# THANK YOU