

8 December 2017

Attention: The Honourable Deputy President
Mr Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa

BY OPEN LETTER

Dear Deputy President Ramaphosa

APPOINTMENT OF THE NEW NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS

We write to you in connection with today's judgment in the Pretoria High Court by Judge President Dunstan Mlambo, which has set aside the appointment of both advocates Shaun Abrahams and Mxolisi Nxasana as head of the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA), and granted you the authority to make this appointment.

Despite the fact that President Zuma has indicated his intention to appeal the ruling, we respectfully ask that you prepare for this eventual role and, in so doing, you take into consideration the views of the public while carrying out this responsibility.

We are sure that you are aware of the slow and meaningless pace of prosecutions relating to corruption, more specifically state corruption. This has become a burning issue as the nation has suffered the loss of billions of rand in taxpayers' money, which ultimately robs the people (particularly the poor) of meaningful socio-economic upliftment. This we believe has been due to political interference and a lack of moral courage by leadership within the NPA. Consequently, we believe that many criminal cases have not advanced as far as they ought to have, which in turn has allowed many people to escape accountability for their roles in corruption and gross maladministration.

We know this because OUTA has laid a number of criminal charges against various public figures who have abused their positions of authority. We have also backed up these charges with substantive facts and evidence of unacceptable conduct relating to treason, corruption and fraud, yet months have gone past with little action taken. We also know of many other cases with substantive evidence of wrong doing that have been the subject of mismanagement and interference to protect people connected to political authority.

The opportunity you now have is to enable the change required, by appointing a person who has the moral courage, experience and stamina to stand his or her ground against political meddling, threats and harassment. Our request is that you choose someone who is up for the challenge of doing what must be done, so that the many cases against those who have or are abusing the coffers of the state and corporate entities are held to account.

We ask that you also consider input and suggestions from the public in this appointment, to help find an excellent, brave and independent person for this crucial job.

We wish you strength and good judgment in this responsibility bestowed on you by Judge Mlambo.

Yours sincerely



Wayne Duvenage
OUTA CEO