



MEDIA STATEMENT

SABC SETS THE RECORD STRAIGHT FOLLOWING THE DA STATEMENT ON AN INTERNAL MEMO

Johannesburg, Monday, 01 October 2018 - The South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) has noted with concern the factually incorrect and misleading media statement issued by the Democratic Alliance (DA). This statement inaccurately claims that a memo was issued to SABC employees *"indicating a freeze of salary increases and hiring of new staff"*. The fact is, on 27 September 2018 the SABC issued a notice to all staff members communicating the suspension of the following, with immediate effect:

- Submission of motivations for the creation of positions and/ or the filling of positions;
- Advertising of positions, whether through the internal communicate process or externally;
- Submission of motivations by line managers/employees/divisions for the review of scale codes, job evaluation and remuneration adjustments;
- All discussions appertaining career prospects where such engagements may result in "reasonable expectations" being created;
- The secondment or transfer of employees from one division/ region to another; and
- All new offers of employment.

The above moratoria are due to the Corporation's contemplation of invoking Section 189 of the Labour Relations Act, as has been communicated to all employees, organised labour and other key stakeholders.

At no stage in the internal notice to staff did the SABC management indicate a freeze on salary increases as alleged in the DA statement. In fact, despite tough economic conditions and the dire financial situation of the Corporation, the SABC successfully negotiated salary increases with organised labour, which were paid to all eligible employees at the end of September 2018. In this regard, it must be understood that annual salary increases are a

collective bargaining process with organised labour and this particular process was initiated in May 2018 and implemented at the end of September 2018.

The DA statement further claims that the “SABC’s top management receive extraordinarily high salaries”. We would like to place on record that the salaries of the recently appointed executive board members and executive management have been significantly reduced and bear no resemblance to the figures quoted in the DA statement.

We urge all stakeholders to refrain from communicating factually incorrect information which stands to undermine internal SABC processes, aimed at re-establishing a sound and financially stable Public Broadcaster.

Ends

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