



AUDITOR - GENERAL
SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA RELEASE

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AGSA welcomes withdrawal of Eskom exemption

PRETORIA – Auditor-General (AG) Tsakani Maluleke has noted the announcement by the Minister of Finance, Enoch Godongwana, to withdraw a gazette granting Eskom exemption from disclosing irregular, fruitless and wasteful expenditure in its financial statements.

The AG welcomes the announcement and believes it allows for sufficient consultation with the National Treasury, Deloitte, as Eskom's appointed auditors, and the Auditor-General of South Africa (AGSA) to address any technical issues that may have arisen.

The granting of exemptions from the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) is the prerogative of the Minister of Finance, as empowered by section 92 of the Act.

The AGSA has a constitutional mandate to strengthen our country's democracy by enabling oversight, accountability and governance in the public sector through auditing. It also has a responsibility to exercise its mandate of auditing and ensuring that the findings are communicated in a manner that enables oversight and accountability. It is important that any exemptions granted should continue to promote transparency and accountability in the public sector.

The AGSA will communicate further on this matter after consulting with all stakeholders.

End.

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About the AGSA: The AGSA is the country's supreme audit institution. It is the only institution that, by law, has to audit and report on how government is spending taxpayers' money. This has been the focus of the AGSA since its inception in 1911 – the organisation celebrated its 100-year public sector auditing legacy in 2011.