



MEDIA STATEMENT

13 NOVEMBER 2020

CIVIL SOCIETY MOURNS THE UNTIMELY PASSING OF OUTGOING AUDITOR- GENERAL KIMI MAKWETU

We, the undersigned civil society members and organisations, whose work seeks to improve good governance wish to send our deepest condolences to the family of Thembikile Kimi Makwetu on his untimely passing. Our condolences also go to his colleagues in the Auditor-General's office. The whole country is reeling at the loss of a stellar leader of his calibre, a leader who served the country with integrity, honesty and discipline at a time when such was rare.

We, as civil society, are particularly grateful for the work of Mr Makwetu in highlighting the deplorable state of affairs in municipalities all over the country. His last report on local government audit outcomes as Auditor-General, titled *"Not much to go around, yet not the right hands at the till"*, highlights his 'no fear, nor favour' stance and will always serve as a reminder of his legacy of improving public governance. Mr. Makwetu served his country with humility and his work ethic needs to be emulated by other public servants.

We are exceptionally grateful to Mr. Makwetu for availing himself to speak, engage and inform civil society whenever invited and for never turning down an invitation from civil society, especially those whose work clearly contributes to strengthening public institutions. He affirmed the importance of civil society in strengthening democracy and good governance at a time when many were referring to us as 'agents of foreign interests'. His courage continues to strengthen our work even in this tragic time.

Signed by:

1. Afesis-corplan
2. Ahmed Kathrada Foundation
3. Alliance for Rural Democracy
4. amandla.mobi
5. Barry Giesken
6. Bavuse Trading Enterprises
7. Benchmark Foundation
8. Blacksash
9. Black Womxn Caucus
10. Built Environment Support Group
11. Breakthru Community Action
12. C-19 Coalition
13. C-19 Cash Transfers Working Group
14. Cala University Students Association
15. Centre for Community Development
16. Democracy Development Programme
17. Development Action Group
18. Dullah Omar Institute
19. Feed A Family East London
20. Food Not Bombs Jozie
21. Goedgevonden Development Committee
22. Gun Free South Africa
23. Independent Komani Resident Association
24. Invest In Youth Invest In A Nation
25. KwaZulu Natal Deaf Association
26. Land Access Movement of South Africa
27. Lawyers for Human Rights
28. Masimanyane Women's Rights International
29. Motane Community Based Enterprise
30. Ntinga Ntaba kaNdoda
31. PLANACT
32. Public Service Accountability Monitor
33. SILA Foundation
34. Sinosizo Siyaphambili
35. Socio-Economic Rights Institute of South Africa
36. Soul City Institute for Social Justice
37. South African National Civic Organisation
38. Trust for Community Outreach and Education
39. Unemployed People's Movement of South Africa