

Noting the January report of the Auditor General on the DECLARATION OF INTERESTS BY MINISTERS, DEPUTY MINISTERS AND GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, and in the interests of transparency and the rule of law, we find ourselves deeply concerned about potential conflicts arising from nondisclosure on interests by role-players in government.

As such I propose that Scopa adopt a formal resolution to take the following action steps:

1. To call on the ministers and deputy ministers who did not disclose their interests and memberships in companies and close corporations to make a written submission to Scopa outlining a) why they did not make the requisite disclosures, b) what is the nature of the business in which they have an interest, c) whether this business is currently trading and when last the business was trading, d) whether the business does or has ever done business with an organ of the state.
2. To refer any cases to the public protector where it is found that ministers or deputy ministers have opened themselves up to conflicts of interest by participating in a concern that does business with an organ of state,.
3. To call upon all provincial Scopas to implement similar enquiries into the disclosure of interests by MEC's and other government role-players that may fall within the provincial mandate, and to submit a report to the national Scopa outlining findings as well as proposals.
4. To call on the Public Service Commission to outline its plans for an investigation into non-disclosure of interests by senior government officials who are not bound by either the Executive Members Ethics Act or the Parliamentary Code of Conduct, and to outline its proposals for ensuring that in the future disclosure requirements are better complied with by government employees.