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MEDIA STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Issued by the Board of the State Information Technology Agency (SITA)

Att: Editors & Reporters

13 December 2024

The Board of the State Information Technology Agency (SITA) acknowledges the recent announcement by the Honourable Minister of the Department of Communications and Digital Technologies, Mr. Solly Malatsi, regarding an investigation by the Public Service Commission (PSC) into the affairs of SITA. This follows intervention and oversight proceedings conducted at SITA Centurion on Wednesday, 11 December 2024.

The Board welcomes this decision and remains fully committed to transparency and accountability, recognising these principles as foundational to our democratic governance. As a state-owned enterprise, SITA is dedicated to conducting business with integrity and purpose, ensuring that we fulfill our mandate to support government departments through effective ICT solutions. We assure the public of our full cooperation during this investigation.

Key Points of Our Position:

1. Rooting Out Systemic Challenges

The PSC investigation offers an essential opportunity to address long-standing systemic issues that have impacted SITA's stability and performance. Over our 25-year history, SITA has experienced significant turnover in leadership, with no fewer than 23 CEOs, five of whom have served in the past three years. This historical instability has undoubtedly affected our operations. The current Board was appointed in 2022; however, our tenure has not been uninterrupted. To maintain the integrity of the PSC's process, we will refrain from making pre-emptive comments and urge all stakeholders to respect this investigation. Further submissions will be made to the PSC in due course.

2. Commitment to Accountability

As a state entity, SITA is firmly committed to accountability, which is essential for operational effectiveness. We support the Minister's decision and believe that this investigation will assist in restoring public trust and confidence in our organisation's capacity to meet its critical mandate.

Non-Executive Directors:

Ms. M Mosidi (Chairperson), Prof. S Bvuma (Deputy Chairperson), Ms. Z Hill, Ms. O Ketsekile,
Ms. N Pietersen, Mr. R Ramabulana, Mr. M Ratshimbilani

Executive Directors:

Mr. S Dzegwa (Managing Director Acting), Mr. MK Kgauwe (Chief Financial Officer)

Company Secretary (Acting):

Ms. N Green

3. Governance and Oversight

It is crucial to emphasize that the Board's role is primarily one of oversight, while operational decisions rest with management. We are confident that the PSC investigation will clarify these roles and address any instances of overreach or encroachment into management functions.

4. Driving a Healthy and High-Performing SITA

Ensuring a well-functioning SITA is vital for the enhancement of government services and for advancing the nation's digital transformation agenda. We remain steadfast in maximising SITA's potential and establishing it as a leader in ICT excellence for the 21st century.

5. Future Outlook

The Board has scheduled an Annual General Meeting (AGM) for January 2025, where we will present a comprehensive report on SITA's financial and operational performance, offering further insights into the organisation's state and plans.

"As a Board, we remain hopeful that the PSC's investigation will identify and address the root causes of our systemic challenges, positioning us to support government departments and drive innovation in ICT effectively," concludes Deputy Chairperson, Dr Stella Bvuma.

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For further information, please contact:

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