



National Student Financial Aid Scheme

## MEDIA STATEMENT

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**DATE: WEDNESDAY, 16 AUGUST 2023**

**SUBJECT: BOARD DECISION TO INVESTIGATE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST CEO**

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In the past few weeks, several allegations were levelled against the Chief Executive Officer of the National Student Financial Aid Scheme. The allegations relate to his work with the Services SETA and how this may relate to unacceptable conduct in the awarding of bids at NSFAS. Whilst the Board recognizes that, in the main, the allegations stem from activities in another organisation, it views them in a very serious light.

NSFAS runs close to 50-billion-rand budget which services young people from poor and working-class backgrounds. This is no small task, as it has an impact on skill development and consequently the economic development of our nation. The Board believes that in executing this responsibility, public trust is of paramount importance.

In the interest of the image of NSFAS, the Board has resolved to investigate the allegations with a particular focus on the Direct Payment project. During the course of the investigation, the Chief Executive Officer will be on leave of absence. The Chief Financial Officer, Mr Masile Ramorwesi, will be acting as Chief Executive Officer until further notice.

The Board wishes to reiterate that this investigation in no pronouncement of guilt against the CEO, but an objective effort to determine the veracity of the allegations.

Ernest Khosa, Board Chair said:

“The Board commits itself to transformation and clean governance at NSFAS and will ensure that any activities that defeat the purpose of serving students from poor and working-class backgrounds are addressed decisively”.

END

Issued by:

**The National Student Financial Aid Scheme**

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