



Statement by Justice Sisi Khampepe, Chairperson of the TRC Cases Inquiry, on Consultative Forum

Tuesday, 19 August 2025

I wish to extend a warm welcome to everyone, particularly my co-Commissioners, Kgomo, JP (Ret.), Adv. Gabriel SC.

I also wish to acknowledge the presence of Advocate Thokoa, the Commission's Secretary, Advocate Semanya SC, our Evidence Leader and his team.

I also recognise legal practitioners who are representing interested persons and institutions, academics and others who have an interest in the work of the Commission, and members of the media.

As we all know, the President of the Republic of SA, Mr CM Ramaphosa, has established the Judicial Commission of Inquiry whose thrust is to look into allegations regarding efforts or attempts to stop the investigation or prosecution of Truth and Reconciliation Commission cases.

The history of our past as a country is well documented.

The security apparatus of Apartheid South Africa has left a trail of human rights violations. Apartheid itself was declared a crime against humanity.

As a transition from the dark past to a democratic society that this country now is, the South Africa chose a process by which amnesty for all the human rights violations would be granted to those who came forward to tell the true and complete story about their part in these human rights violations.

Upon full disclosure, the applicants would then receive amnesty for all their crimes.

Those who did not participate in the TRC processes, as well as those who failed to make full and complete disclosures regarding their part in the perpetration of these human rights violations, should





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be investigated and where evidence was obtained to support the prosecution, those individuals be prosecuted.

It is in the interest of justice that the victims and their families must find closure and where prosecution is competent, to have those perpetrators brought to book.

Despite a period exceeding two decades, there has been insufficient investigation and prosecution, and it is the hope of this Inquiry to find facts and make recommendations about who were responsible for impeding the attainment of justice to the victims and their families.

As an important first step, the Inquiry will bring together all interested persons and institutions to a pre-hearing meeting with a view to agreeing on a programme for the conduct of the Inquiry's work and agreeing on a timeline for all the procedural steps for the smooth running of the Inquiry.

We hope to have this important consultative meeting within the next three weeks and call on all interested persons and institutions to register their interest via email to submissions@trc-inquiry.org.za by no later than 20 August 2025.

ENDS.

