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## SUBMISSION OF THE REPORT BY THE INTERIM NATIONAL DEFENCE FORCE SERVICE COMMISSION TO THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS

The interim Defence Service Commission handed over to its report to the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans last Thursday, 10 December 2009. The Minister of Defence and Military Veterans will therefore hand over the report to the Commander-in-Chief who after consideration will table the report to the Cabinet for approval. Thereafter an announcement will be made by the Commander-in-Chief with regard to the recommendations contained in the report.

On 5 October 2009, the MOD&MV issued the terms of reference mentioned hereunder to the INDFSC. The INDFSC was required to report by 31 December 2009 or an earlier date, giving due consideration to Section 80 of the Defence Act (Act No 42 of 2002):

- To advise and make recommendations on a unique service dispensation outside the ambit of the Public Service, in respect of members of the SANDF.
- To advise and make recommendations regarding the amendment of the regulatory framework in order to give effect to the unique service dispensation as per paragraph.
- To investigate, provide expert advice and make recommendations regarding

remuneration and the conditions of service of members of the SANDF.

On 9 November 2009, the MOD&MV handed over to the INDFSC the amended terms of reference which read as follows:

- Advise and make recommendations on a unique service dispensation outside the ambit of the Public Service.
- Advise on the regulatory framework for the unique service dispensation.
- Investigate and provide advice on remuneration and conditions of service of members of the SANDF.
- In order to assist the INDFSC, it is proposed that the INDFSC adopts the following approach:
  - It makes recommendations on a unique service dispensation for the SANDF.

The recommendations must include the establishment of a permanent National Defence Force Service Commission (Military Service Commission) and:

- How it is to be appointed.
- Its terms of reference.
- Its functions.
- Its staff component.
- Its relationship with the Public Service Commission

- Its relationship with Parliament.
- It's reporting responsibilities to the President and the MOD&MV.
- Its oversight role over the SANDF in respect of the INDFSC's mandate.

All other issues mentioned in the initial briefing document should be regarded as medium term work in progress to be continued until a permanent National Defence Force Service Commission is appointed.

The Commission is pleased about progress already made since its inception in early October, 2009 a significant ground has been covered and the proper circumstances for harmonious operations are in place. Furthermore the commission would be meeting with the Minister and her team on 20 January 2010 to determine amongst other things a time-table of deliverables goals in the New Year.

Meanwhile, the Commission will continue its work to deal with the outstanding matters that still need to be dealt with in preparation for the permanent commission and the legalities thereof.

**Any enquiries on this may be directed to the DOD Head of Communications: Mr Siphwe Dlamini at (012) 355-6105.**