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THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE HAS A NEW SECRETARY FOR DEFENCE

The new Secretary for Defence designate and the first ever female Secretary for Defence in the history of the defence force is Ms Mpumi Mpofu. Ms Mpofu has extensive experience in government having served as Director General for the national Department of Housing for eight years and five years for the Department of Transport.

Ms Mpofu, a veteran of Umkhonto Wesizwe who was sentenced to eleven years for its activities, holds an honours degree in urban and regional planning and a postgraduate degree in town planning both from Coventry University in the United Kingdom.

Ms Mpofu as Secretary for Defence is responsible for managing the Secretariat and is the accounting officer of the Department of Defence. The Secretary for Defence is also a principal policy advisor of the Minister of Defence.

Furthermore, the Secretary for Defence also performs duties and functions necessary for the democratic and civilian management of the defence function. This is aimed at enhancing parliamentary and Ministerial control over the South African National Defence Force (SANDF).

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