



AZAPO

AZANIAN PEOPLE'S ORGANISATION

TO : MEDIA HOUSES FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FROM : AZAPO SECRETARY FOR LEGAL & CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS

DATE : OCTOBER 24, 2022

SUBJECT : AZAPO ON THE RESPONSE OF PRESIDENT RAMAPHOSA TO THE STATE OF CAPTURE COMMISSION REPORT

To the Azanian People's Organisation (AZAPO) the upfront declaration by President Ramaphosa that **he is not bound to implement all the recommendations but would use his discretion is worrisome** in that it talks to his extent of commitment to ensure action. AZAPO like most citizens of AZANIA/South Afrika were expecting the President of the republic to have demonstrated his commitment by at the very least fire ministers of his cabinet implicated in corruption and related crime. Informed by facts, AZAPO holds the view that it is within President Rampahosa's discretion and ambit to have acted immediately instead of deferring such action to an undated future. This inaction speaks to the indecisiveness of the President of the country to combat corruption.

Things the President talked about are obvious if one has read the report. What was painful to endure was listening to a scratched record – lest we forget, all the treasonous acts were sanctioned and/or condoned by the ruling party. It offered protection for those who looted state resources, be they politicians or administrators. President Ramaphosa chose the path that says: *"I am not responsible for the executive decisions of this country, my party is"*. He is incapable of implementing recommendations against Ministers in his cabinet by removing them from office with immediate effect as is in his powers. He instead talks of protracted legal processes. AZAPO concludes that **the wrong "State of Capture"** was investigated. There is instead a current continuing State of Capture taking place and AZANIA will be in the same position after the presidency of Ramaphosa. AZAPO Online webinar earlier on Sunday explored the topic: **Are Commissions of Inquiry an effective way of combating corruption and related white-collar crime in AZANIA?** and provided insightful views on what the purpose of a commission of inquiry is and how it can be manipulated by politicians to their advantage and be weaponised against opponents. See such discussion captured from **minute 49:00:00 –02:01:11** in the link below: <https://www.facebook.com/AZAPO1978/videos/1242175739966703/>.

AZAPO calls for the following to happen:

- Parliament to investigate the reasons why the President is failing to protect the interests of the country
- The citizens be critical of the ruling party by clearly stating that it is not the appropriate entity to be involved in implementing the recommendations of the State of Capture of the Zondo Commission

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- All opposition parties in parliament to establish an *ad hoc* committee that will very clearly set out:
 - The offences committed
 - The action required (i.e. prosecution; recovery and disciplinary action) against all those cited in the commission's report(s)
- The committee to monitor all the processes to implement the recommendations

AZAPO and the citizens of the country are fatigued by promises and plans that are not time bound. The challenges of President Ramaphosa are inherent in his party and him being beholden to the party makes his utterances hollow. He is waiting for the reaction of his party before he commits. The implementation may be deferred or confined to low hanging fruits, like it is likely to be the case with one of his bodyguards in the Phala Phalagate. Making the ID (Investigative Directorate) a permanent feature of the NPA means nothing unless the unit is capacitated to employ key and experienced forensic experts to deal with the cases and backlog. The anti corruption agencies proposed may be lame ducks created to appease the public without any tangible effect.

AZAPO will continue with its programs to highlight and bring pressure on the various institutions and individuals responsible for the Treasonous Acts to ensure they are held accountable.

AZAPO calls upon citizens of this country to make the correct choice at the ballot to ensure we have a caring government that is run by AZAPO on behalf of the people of this country. The struggle for total liberation of AZANIA has been deferred and it is about time to put it back onto the agenda.

Ends

Issued via AZAPO Department of Publicity & Information

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