



Thursday, 2 October 2025

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **SPECIAL INVESTIGATING REPORT ON TEMBISA HOSPITAL**

#### **Failure to Implement Procurement Transparency and Accountability Reforms Will Result in More Tembisa Hospitals; Prioritise Prevention and Early Detection**

The Imali Yethu Coalition for Open Budgets welcomes the Special Investigating Unit's (SIU) Interim Investigation Report into Corruption at Tembisa Hospital in Gauteng released on 29 September 2025. The report provides the public with insights into the egregious abuses of public resources within the health system.

The Coalition is deeply alarmed by the widespread corruption and looting of public funds detailed in the report. Amongst the revelations is that over R2 billion was stolen via multiple complex syndicates operating with the complicity of officials in the Department of Health and Tembisa Hospital.

The SIU underscores how these corrupt acts compromise health services as funds *"intended for the provision of healthcare to the most vulnerable, was instead ruthlessly siphoned off through a complex web of fraud and corruption, representing an egregious betrayal of the nation's trust."* South Africa can ill afford the continued cycle of corruption that erodes democratic governance and social justice.

**The need for systemic reform of procurement and financial management systems is ever urgent. Prevention and early detections of corruption must be prioritised.**

The Imali Yethu Coalition call for:

- Comprehensive, whole-of-government prioritisation of reforms to ensure genuine transparency in public procurement and public financial systems
- Swift and decisive action from the South African Police Service and National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) to hold all those implicated criminally accountable under the full extent of the law
- Efficient, impartial action by the NPA to ensure that the perpetrators, including syndicates and complicit officials at all levels face prosecutions without delay



- Effective protection and support to all whistle-blowers and witnesses who courageously expose corruption for public good

Failing to tackle impunity and to implement key transparency and accountability reforms will only embolden further corruption and further erode public trust in the public service.

The Imali Yethu Coalition reaffirms our commitment to bolstering open government and transparency through co-creation with the government to support reforms that seek to restore integrity, accountability, and transparency in our public institutions.

ENDS

For further information contact: Zukiswa Kota: Lead Coordinator: [z.kota@ru.ac.za](mailto:z.kota@ru.ac.za) / +27 64 870 5700

**Imali Yethu (NPC)** is a registered non-profit and coalition of civil society organisations, individual experts and researchers committed to leveraging co-creation to achieve open, accountable governance. Our work is inspired by the standards of co-creation and participation envisioned by the Open Government Partnership (OGP). Coalition members include Corruption Watch, Equal Education, the Equal Education Law Centre, the Legal Resources Centre, MobiSAM, My Vote Counts, the Public Service Accountability Monitor, SECTION27 and The South African Health Technologies Advocacy Coalition.