



SOUTH AFRICAN PERMANENT MISSION GENEVA

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Ref: 146/2026

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of South Africa to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organisations in Switzerland presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and has the honour to refer to the Joint Communication by the Special Procedures - ref. AL ZAF 1/2026 dated 10 April 2026.

The Permanent Mission of South Africa wishes to submit herewith an acknowledgement letter from the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation of the Republic of South Africa, Mr Ronald Lamola, confirming receipt of the communication.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of South Africa to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organisations in Switzerland avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 29 April 2026



The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
Palais des Nations
1211 Geneva 10
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**MINISTER
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND COOPERATION
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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Dear Special Mandate Holders

Joint Communication from the Special Procedure of the United Nations Human Rights Council

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your communication dated 10 April 2026, transmitted by the Special Rapporteurs on the situation of human rights defenders; extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions; the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; and adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living.

The Government of South Africa is deeply aware of the tragic death of Mr. Zweli "Khabazela" Mkhize and wishes to assure the Special Procedures that these allegations are taken with the utmost seriousness. The Government reiterates its commitment to fulfilling its obligations under international human rights law and to ensuring accountability.

We further acknowledge the request for information concerning investigations into the killing of Mr. Mkhize, as well as the continued threats against members of the movement. The Government will provide a substantive response in due course.

We thank you for bringing these concerns to our attention and for your continued engagement with the Government of South Africa.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Minister of International Relations and Cooperation

Date: 20/04/2026

Ms Mary Lawlor, Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders
Mr Morris Tidball-Binz, Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions

Ms Gina Romero, Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association

Mr Balakrishnan Rajagopal, Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context

Geneva, Switzerland