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**LAW SOCIETY WELCOMES COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO ARMS DEAL**

The Law Society of South Africa (LSSA) welcomes President Jacob Zuma's decision to appoint a commission of inquiry to investigate allegations of wrongdoing in the Strategic Defence Procurement Packages (or the 'arms deal'). 'We commend the President on this decision and agree with him that closure on the subject will be in the public interest,' say LSSA Co-Chairpersons Nano Matlala and Praveen Sham.

The LSSA urges the President to appoint a formal commission of enquiry to ensure that it has the necessary powers, legal standing and funding to carry out the inquiry credibly, transparently and expeditiously.

**ISSUED ON BEHALF OF THE CO-CHAIRPERSONS OF THE LAW SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA, PRAVEEN SHAM AND NANO MATLALA**

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**Editor's note:**

The Law Society of South Africa is a member of the SADC Lawyers Association.

The Law Society of South Africa brings together its six constituent members – the Cape Law Society, the KwaZulu-Natal Law Society, the Law Society of the Free State, the Law Society of the Northern Provinces, the Black Lawyers Association and the National Association of Democratic Lawyers – in representing South Africa's 20 000 attorneys and 5 000 candidate attorneys.

In Afrikaans items, please refer to the 'Prokureursorde van Suid-Afrika'.