



**RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT THE
SUMMIT ON BRIEFING PATTERNS IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION
HELD AT EMPEROR'S PALACE, KEMPTON PARK 31 MARCH 2016**

The Summit expresses its deepest concerns about the legal briefing patterns in the public and private sectors insofar as this endangers the constitutional democracy and insofar as there appears to be bias against black practitioners and women practitioners in these sectors.

This flies against the principles of non-racialism and non-sexism as espoused in the Preamble and elsewhere in the Constitution.

It further has a negative impact on the occupational progression of practitioners in these groupings and their economic wellbeing.

The Summit recognises that meaningful action must be taken by all stakeholders from the date of this Summit and that this process be subjected to strict accountability.

The Government is expected to embrace decisive action and must not be seen to promote the skewed briefing patterns as set out above.

It is, therefore, proposed that:

1. Representatives of the following sections nominate a representative to a Task Team to be convened by the Law Society of South Africa (LSSA) –
 - The State through the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development.
 - Three representatives of the attorneys' profession through the LSSA.
 - Three representatives of the advocates' profession.
 - Two representatives of business through the Black Business Council and Business Unity South Africa.
 - One representative by the six large law firms represented.
2. This group will convene within two months from the date of the Summit and will consider an agenda, *inter alia* including:
 - 2.1 Developing a uniform protocol on the procurement of legal services;
 - 2.2 Setting of targets for entities doing State work;
 - 2.3 Establishing a common register for the recording of State legal work, with reference to name, frequency, value and nature of brief;

- 2.4 Drafting a Code of Conduct for private enterprise in respect of legal work, with which the private sector can associate;
 - 2.5 Considering relevant research, training and development;
 - 2.6 Monitoring progress with regard to briefing patterns for a report to Summit delegates and for considering the necessity of a follow-up summit;
In this respect, performance by the State and corporate sector factor in deciding whether the Summit should be reconvened.
3. The Task Team will give due consideration to all proposals and concerns raised by the delegates at this Summit.