

Media Statement

23 August 2018

Johannesburg

Dear Susan

Response to questions from AmaBhungane received on 21 August 2018

Your recent query covers a range of topics many of which are now the subject matter of ongoing litigation or investigation.

You have asked Dr. Wood to comment on correspondence and transactions which span some years in a company in which he has not had any access to or involvement since March 2016 and does not have access to the requisite records to deal with your queries.

Given the extensive nature of your queries (many of which are based on incorrect premises), it is both unfair and unreasonable for you to expect Dr. wood to provide you with comprehensive responses in the short time allowed mindful that based on your own reporting you have been spending months gathering information.

Suffice is to say that:

A) You are incorrect as to what you believe Dr. Wood's role was in relation to the China Development Bank loan. You have referred to documents and correspondence not in Dr. Wood's possession and he is unable to comment



without access to this correspondence and the context thereof. Are you prepared to make all of the correspondence you refer to available?

B) The TSDBF matter is sub judice and Dr. Wood's position as well as the entities that he worked for in relation to this matter will be articulated in court papers at the appropriate time. It is unreasonable for you to expect any comment on the subject matter in these proceedings whilst you are well aware that there are extensive proceedings underway. It is also unreasonable for you to try and attempt to predict the outcome of any responses by parties or findings that a court may make in these matters.

C) Your questions in relation to Mr. Ramosebudi are in relation to correspondence and transactions that you purport took place some years ago at Regiments but you have not provided Dr. Wood with any particularity or context in order for him to respond to what appear to be serious allegations without a reasonable opportunity to respond.

D) In relation to the Tegeta payment, the thrust of your queries relate to actions and intentions which even on the version of events which you propose would be outside of Dr. Wood's personal knowledge and he cannot comment thereon.

Susan, Dr. Wood has in the past dealt with queries from your publication on short deadlines and done his best to assist you where the questions have been reasonable and in context. Unfortunately, the recent spate and range of queries and the ridiculous deadlines have left Dr. Wood with the impression that your publication is simply paying lip service to seeking comment and that your story has effectively already been written.

Please ensure that you include this response and the objections contained in this response in any piece you may publish in relation to the subject matter contained in your queries.

ENDS

