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Media Statement

THE NATIONAL SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES INAUGURAL SENIOR FELLOWS

In October 2020, The Minister for the Public Service and Administration, Mr Senzo Mchunu endorsed the appointment of three eminent and former senior public servants as Inaugural Senior Fellows of the National School of Government (NSG).

The Minister has this morning, announced additional Senior Fellow for the NSG, **Dr Eric Li**. Dr Li is a Chinese venture capitalist and influential political scientist. He also serves on the board of directors of China Europe International Business School (CEIBS), a trustee of the China Institute at Fudan University, serves on the board of Stanford University's Graduate School of Business and the Freeman Spogli Institute (FSI), a trustee of the Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive of the University of California, Berkeley, a trustee of the San Francisco Symphony, a trustee of Asia Society Hong Kong, and member of the Council of the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS),

The NSG Fellowship Programme aims to leverage on the experience and insights of distinguished former public servants, implementation and leadership experts as well as from scholars in pursuit of an ethical, capable and developmental state characterised by high levels of professionalism.

The Inaugural NSG Senior Fellows that were announced in October 2020 are as follows:

- **Dr Cassius Lubisi**, an accomplished academic, advisor, educationist and public sector executive.
- **Ms Nosipho Ngcaba**: Ms Ngcaba, the second longest serving female Director-General since 1994, led the Department of Environmental Affairs for 12 years during which time she also ably chaired the Directors-General Cluster on International Cooperation, Trade and Security (ICTSMs)

- **Dr Sam Gulube:** A US-trained surgeon, Dr Gulube served as Secretary for Defence from 2011 until August 2020. As Secretary for Defence, he was the accounting officer of the Department of Defence and principal advisor to Minister of Defence and Military Veterans on defence policy matters. He previously served as Advisor to the Minister of State Security, CEO of the Universal Service Agency of South Africa and as Director of the National Telemedicine Research Centre at the Medical Research Council of South Africa.

The Fellowship is a voluntary, non-remunerated appointment. The Fellows have agreed to undertake this responsibility as a service to the country to contribute towards building a virtuous, capable and development orientated public administration.

The Fellows will support the NSG through programmes, such as participating in thought leadership conversations, the mentorship of new Heads of Department and as advisors, in the pursuit of research and innovation necessary to design and deploy high impact training programmes targeting public sector employees. They will also participate in international Master Classes and participate in peer learning exchanges. Where they serve as mentors, priority will be given to women, youth and people living with disabilities as part of the NSG's drive to accelerate leadership advancement among designated groups.

The Minister has expressed appreciation to the Fellows for availing themselves to support the work of the 'reimagined' NSG. He acknowledged that there are people who have retired from the public sector with vast experience and knowledge which is critical for the project of shaping the new cadre of public servants. *"In addition to distinguished former public servants and leaders, experts in academia and other sectors of society are keen to make a contribution to the revival of the public service by sharing their expertise. In order to facilitate a process for actively drawing on these individuals, it has become imperative for the NSG to establish this Fellowship Programme,"* concluded Minister Mchunu.

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