

# Press

# Release

## For immediate release

### 15 April 2019

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South African Institute of Race Relations

*The power of ideas*

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#### **Media invited to EWC documents hand-over at the Union Buildings – IRR**

The Institute of Race Relations (IRR) will be going to the Union Buildings in Pretoria on Wednesday 17 April to hand over the names of nearly 160 000 South Africans who are opposed to Expropriation without Compensation (EWC) to the Office of the Presidency.

The IRR team will be led by Head of Strategic Operations Sihle Ngobese (also known as Big Daddy Liberty).

Since May last year, nearly 160 000 South Africans have endorsed an IRR statement opposing EWC, and making the case for successful land reform based on strengthening and broadening property rights.

The IRR warns that weakening property rights through the current drive for expropriating property without compensation will damage South Africa's economic prospects significantly and undermine important and necessary efforts to broaden

land ownership both in urban and rural areas, and to protect and nurture the country's vital agricultural economy.

Land reform can be done without tampering with property rights, which are one of the cornerstones of any functional democracy. Any move to weaken them will result in dire consequences for all South Africans.

As it promised to do, the IRR team led by Ngobese will be handing over the list of names to the Office of the Presidency to underscore the public's concerns about EWC, and highlight policy options that will better serve the country's interests.

The media are invited to report on the hand-over, which will take place at the Union Buildings at 1pm on Wednesday 17 April.

**Ends**