MESSAGE OF SUPPORT BY MAYOR CLLR. CYRIL XABA AT THE SIU INTERNATIONAL FRAUD AWARENESS PROGRAMME, DURBAN 19 NOVEMBER 2025

- Programme director
- Office of the Premier
- KZN Provincial Head: Mr. Ashish Gosai
- KZN IPID Provincial Head: Mr. Jonathan Chetty
- Office of the Public Protector
- Officials
- Members of the media
- Ladies and gentlemen

Good morning. Sanibona.

We are pleased to be part of this year's International Fraud Awareness Campaign which fits perfectly with our initiatives as eThekwini Municipality to fight fraud and corruption.

We would like to thank the Special Investigating Unit (SIU) for extending an invitation to us to participate in this year's event. As the leadership of

the city, we support this global campaign because it is an effort to galvanise various stakeholders including government, law enforcement agencies and civil society to work together to combat corruption and promote ethical behaviour.

Therefore, it is crucial that while we promote educational campaigns to enhance awareness and encourage the public to be involved, we must also ensure we strengthen law enforcement agencies. Those who continue to benefit from fraudulent and criminal activities need to know that they have no place in our society.

In this regard, as a city, we have recommitted ourselves to build a capable, honest, and transparent administration. We would like to invite all our social partners, business, organised labour, and the community to join us in our efforts to root out fraud and corruption in the municipality. By eradicating the cancer of corruption, we would be creating a space where we are able to deliver quality services to residents.

Ladies and gentlemen, we support the call for lifestyle audits made by the African National Congress (ANC) recently. We have no doubt that this is going to improve the level of trust members of the public have on government at all levels. As public representatives, we must account for

every cent that we are entrusted with so that we can achieve the noble goal of building a better life for all.

On our part as eThekwini Municipality, we remain steadfast in our commitment to strengthen internal mechanism to hold those found on the wrong side of the law accountable. We have strengthened portfolio committees within the municipality to enhance oversight and we are implementing consequence management to deal with those individuals engaging in fraud and corruption. We strongly believe that lack of consequence management in an institution encourages wrongdoing.

As the leadership of the municipality, we fully support the work that is being done by the SIU in uncovering fraud and corruption in government institutions including municipalities. We welcome these efforts because corruption does not only erodes public trust, but it also stalls services delivery and perpetuate, poverty and inequality.

I wish to reiterate that for us win the fight against fraud and corruption, we must all work together.

Lastly, let us all commit ourselves to upholding the highest standards of integrity so that we can build a just, equal, and prosperous nation.

Thank you.