

ARMS PROCUREMENT COMMISSION

SUMMARY OF MR ODENDAL'S EVIDENCE

Mr Johan Odendal will commence giving testimony tomorrow (20 November 2013) before the Arms Procurement Commission. He was appointed as the Programme Manager for the Light Utility Helicopter Programme shortly after the announcement by the Government of the Republic of South Africa that Agusta S.P.A was the preferred bidder for the LUH programme that formed part of the Strategic Defence Procurement Packages. In his evidence, Mr Odendal will deal with matters relevant to the process and outcome relating to the LUH acquisition and that are within the Armscor domain. He will focus on the approach adopted by the LUH evaluation team for evaluating the proposals and the outcome of that evaluation, the presentation of the results to the Strategic Offers Committee and the termination of the Integrated Project Team's (IPT) involvement in the process. He will further elucidate the role played by the IPT in negotiating the supply terms agreements with Agusta, factors that informed the decision to reduce the number of helicopters from 40 to 30. Most importantly, he will explain the processes that preceded the selection of the Turbomeca engine and not the Pratt & Whitney engine that Agusta helicopter was initially offered with. Finally, this witness will deal with the cost of the programme as approved by Cabinet and improvements with respect to the specifications which were introduced by the contractor at no cost to Armscor.

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