

Unisa statement on the Pretoria High Court Judgement of 3 November 2023

Date: 03 November 2023

Today, 03 November 2023, Judge Kooverjie of the Pretoria High Court made a ruling in favour of the University of South Africa (Unisa) regarding the application for leave to appeal Judge Kooverjie's order of 6 October 2023 which was brought by the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, Dr Blade Nzimande. This was the fourth consecutive decision in favour of Unisa on whether the university can be placed under administration by the Minister.

On 6 October 2023, the High Court ruled that the decision made by Judge Adams on 24 August 2023 was a court order. This was after the Minister and Unisa had entered into an agreement where the Minister undertook not to appoint an Administrator for Unisa, pending the outcome of the court application by Unisa to review and set aside the report of the Independent Assessor, Professor Themba Mosia, which agreement was made the order of court.

After listening to both parties, Judge Kooverjie dismissed the application by Minister Nzimande for leave to appeal her judgment of 6 October 2023, with costs because, the Minister's application had no prospects of success, among other reasons.

Unisa notes this decision by the Pretoria High Court, and reaffirms that its relationship with the Ministry remains cordial, despite the contestations around the report of the Independent Assessor.

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