

Appendix 3 – Parliamentary Service Commission principles for advertising paid from Vote Parliamentary Service

On 16 December 2003, the Parliamentary Service Commission adopted the following set of principles to govern advertising paid for from Vote Parliamentary Service. We understand that the principles are intended as a guide for MPs and parliamentary parties when implementing the *Members' Handbook Guidelines*.

Principles

3. At the Commission meeting of 16 December 2003, Commission members advised the Speaker to adopt the following principles:
 - **Accountability** - ultimately, members are personally responsible for the way they and parliamentary political parties use the public resources entrusted to them. This responsibility cannot be avoided, even though delegations may exist for others to incur costs on a member's or a parliamentary political party's behalf. Records about a member's or a parliamentary political party's use of public resources should be kept to facilitate scrutiny if required.
 - **Appropriateness** – members and parliamentary political parties must only incur expenditure on “parliamentary business” unless explicit authorisation to the contrary exists.
 - **Integrity** - members and parliamentary political parties must use public resources only for the purposes for which they are provided and in accordance with the conditions attached to the provision of such resources.
 - **Openness** - members and parliamentary political parties must be open in the use of public resources and disclose any conflict of interests in utilising entitlements, be it pecuniary, personal, familial or as a result of any association.
 - **Transparency** - the reasons for, and the circumstances surrounding, the use of public resources by individual members or parliamentary political parties should be publicly available. The process by which funds are expended should also be publicly known.
 - **Value for money** - when using the public resources entrusted to them to perform their official duties, members and parliamentary political parties must seek the appropriate value for money in the circumstances.