



TOUGH STANCE:
Public Service
Minister
Lindiwe Sisulu
says officials
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PHOTO: SHELLEY
CHRISTIANS

Thabo Mokone

HIGH-RANKING public servants will be prohibited from quitting their jobs while facing disciplinary cases involving financial misconduct or mismanagement.

Public Service and Administration Minister Lindiwe Sisulu yesterday told journalists at a meeting with the Parliamentary Press Gallery Association that the cabinet had adopted a new public service manual that would no longer allow officials charged with any form of misconduct to resign from their jobs before the conclusion of their cases.

Sisulu was outlining measures her department would introduce this year to root out

Sisulu warns penalty dodgers

corruption within the entire public service. She said the manual would be compulsory to all national and provincial government departments.

Those to be affected are from the level of chief-director to director-general.

"We want to prohibit anybody who is facing a disciplinary case from resigning and getting a (new) job in government, because we want

to ensure the case is closed before they can move on to another sphere of government," Sisulu said.

"This has been adopted and I am sure it will be possible to implement it (at a later stage) from director level to the lowest level."

There has been concern both from within and outside government about senior government officials who resign

from their high-paying jobs to escape internal charges.

Parliament's standing committee on public accounts openly slammed the practice in 2010, arguing that there was no reason why government could not create measures to prevent officials from escaping when facing charges.

Sisulu also announced that the government would also reduce the period it took to conclude disciplinary cases from 60 to 20 days.

The minister said legislation to bar civil servants from running companies that did business with the state would be on the agenda of Parliament by the end of June this year.