



## **ASSURANCES PROVIDED BY THE CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE DEFENCE FORCES**

The Tribunal has received assurances from the Chief of Staff of the Defence Forces that are consistent with the terms of paragraph (e) of the Tribunal's Terms of Reference.

Specifically, the Tribunal has received the following assurance from the Chief of Staff of the Defence Forces:

***'I wish to provide as required and in accordance with Term of Reference (e), my assurance, in my capacity as Chief of Staff, that no serving member of the Defences Forces will be penalised, by reason of their disclosure of any Complaint, Complaints of Abuse, or Complaint of Hazardous Chemicals at the Tribunal.'***

Whilst not required by the Tribunal's Terms of Reference, the following additional assurance has been provided by the Chief of Staff:

***'Further, serving members of the Defences Forces who have not made such a disclosure, and who co-operate with or assist the work of the Tribunal in accordance with the Tribunals of Inquiry (Evidence) Acts 1921-2004, shall not be penalised by me, or anyone in the Defence Forces acting on my behalf, by reason of such co-operation or assistance.'***

The Tribunal has accepted the above assurances from the Chief of Staff of the Defence Forces.

The Chief of Staff has indicated to the Tribunal his proposal to issue an instruction throughout the Defence Forces so that all those who ought to be aware of the above assurances are made so aware.