From the **PROMOTION OF NATIONAL UNITY AND RECONCILIATION ACT 34 OF 1995**

**SINCE** the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1993, provides a historic bridge between the past of a deeply divided society characterized by strife, conflict, untold suffering and injustice, and a future founded on the recognition of human rights, democracy and peaceful co-existence for all South Africans, irrespective of colour, race, class, belief or sex;

**AND SINCE** it is deemed necessary to establish the truth in relation to past events as well as the motives for and circumstances in which gross violations of human rights have occurred, and to make the findings known in order to prevent a repetition of such acts in future;

**AND SINCE** the Constitution states that the pursuit of national unity, the well-being of all South African citizens and peace require reconciliation between the people of South Africa and the reconstruction of society;

**AND SINCE** the Constitution states that there is a need for understanding but not for vengeance, a need for reparation but not for retaliation, a need for *ubuntu* but not for victimization;

**AND SINCE** the Constitution states that in order to advance such reconciliation and reconstruction amnesty shall be granted in respect of acts, omissions and offences associated with political objectives committed in the course of the conflicts of the past;

**AND SINCE** the Constitution provides that Parliament shall under the Constitution adopt a law which determines a firm cut-off date, which shall be a date after 8 October 1990 and before the cut-off date envisaged in the Constitution, and providing for the mechanisms, criteria and procedures, including tribunals, if any, through which such amnesty shall be dealt with;

**BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED** by the Parliament of the Republic of South Africa.

*a Nguni Bantu word meaning "human kindness", or the larger philosophical idea of a "universal bond of sharing that connects all humanity"