

MEDIA ADVISORY

UNISA and SIU to Formalise Partnership to Strengthen Financial Crime Skills

Approved for public release.

Date: Monday, 16 February 2026

A significant step in strengthening South Africa's capacity to combat financial crime will take place on 16 February 2026, when the University of South Africa and the Special Investigating Unit sign a Memorandum of Understanding at the SIU offices.

The signing ceremony follows one year of intensive collaboration between the two institutions, reflecting a shared commitment to addressing national priorities in skills development and ethical governance through a Master's degree in Accounting Sciences with a focus on Forensic.

The partnership is designed to create pathways for professional qualifications that run alongside academic studies. These qualifications aim to improve employability by combining technical knowledge, professional competence, and ethical grounding. In a country where financial crime continues to place pressure on public resources, strengthening human capability is increasingly important.

South Africa continues to experience shortages in specialised skills required to detect, investigate, and prevent financial crime. Professions such as forensic investigators, forensic auditors, forensic attorneys, civil litigators, forensic accountants, and digital forensic specialists play a central role in safeguarding public institutions. Yet these remain scarce and in high demand.

Through this collaboration, the two institutions will focus on training, research, capacity building, and knowledge exchange. An important element of the agreement is the emphasis on education and awareness to support effective investigations into corruption, malpractice, and maladministration in state institutions.

The partnership also seeks to bridge theory and practice. Forensic auditing graduates will gain practical exposure to real world investigations, as well as access to vocational and internship opportunities. This approach supports the development of work-ready professionals who understand both academic frameworks and operational realities.

By combining academic expertise with investigative experience, the collaboration is expected to strengthen the national capability to combat financial crime. The MoU signals a long-term investment in developing professionals who can contribute to accountability, ethical conduct, and good governance

The signing ceremony will take place as follows:

Date : Monday, 16 February 2026

Time : 10:30

Venue : The Special Investigating Unit (SIU) Offices, Rentmeester Building, 74 Watermeyer Street, Meyers Park, Pretoria



Members of the media are invited to attend and cover the ceremony.

-Ends-

For more information:

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