



**NATIONAL TREASURY
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

31 January 2003

MEDIA RELEASE: TIPS FOR TREVOR CAMPAIGN

ISSUED BY: THE MINISTER OF FINANCE TREVOR MANUEL

The Ministry of Finance is pleased to announce the launch of the annual *Tips for Trevor Campaign*. *Tips for Trevor* is now in its fourth year and invites comments and suggestions from the public on the upcoming budget to be delivered to parliament by Finance Minister Trevor Manuel on 26 February 2003

Four years ago the Minister of Finance Trevor Manuel initiated his *Tips for Trevor* campaign. The idea is to invite South Africans from all walks of life to write to the Minister with tips of what they would like to see in the Budget. The “*Tips for Trevor*” concept was coined after a SABC radio station invited its listeners to phone in and provide tips for the budget. The National Treasury has since punted it and runs it on its website.

Before last year’s speech, more than a thousand suggestions were received. It attracted a wide range of responses from diverse corners of the country. Many gave technical advice on taxes and spending while others told about their shortage of disposable income. There were also those that had nothing financial to say, like someone who complained about racism towards whites. One of the most direct of all was this one: “I suggest, Comrade, that in your Budget speech this year, you find a provision to help the poor and me”. Many senior citizens ask for increases and health care spending.

Minister Manuel personally reads the tips sent to him and makes reference to it during his budget speech.

The Minister will deliver his Budget speech on 26 February 2003 in parliament Cape Town. He again keenly awaits views and suggestions from all South Africans.

Members of the public are therefore invited to once again forward their "Tips for Trevor" and perhaps get a mention in this year's budget speech.

DETAILS: www.treasury.gov.za

Fax: (021) 465 5950

MEDIA CONTACT: Thoraya Pandy 082 416 8412 or 012 315 5399