

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

**FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NO 717**

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**(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 11)**

**717. Mr L J Basson (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:**

(1) With reference to her reply to question 1194 on 24 May 2016, (a) what number of the 35 Cuban engineers are still in the employ of her department and (b) on what date will the employment contracts of each specified engineer expire;

(2) whether her department has employed any other Cuban nationals since her reply to the specified question; if so, what are the relevant details;

(3) what are the current costs of contracting the Cuban engineers in terms of (a) salaries, (b) accommodation, (c) transport costs and (d) any other relevant expenses? NW706E

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**REPLY:**

(1)(a) Since 1 March 2017, 31 Cubans are still in the employ of my Department. 1 Cuban specialist resigned in April 2016 and the other 3 did not renew their contracts when they expired at the end of February 2017.

(1)(b) Their contracts will expire on 21 December 2017 but I have approved that their contracts should be extended up to 30 June 2018.

(2) My Department has not employed any additional Cuban specialists.

(3) The current costs for the financial year under review (2016/17) of contracting the engineers in terms of the line items requested are as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Items** | **Cost** |
| (3)(a) | Salaries | R 19 132 905.00 |
| (3)(b) | Accommodation | R 6 414 355.00 |
| (3)(c) | Transport Cost | R 5 164 250.00 |
| (3)(d) | Other Expenses (Cell phones, 3Gs and S&T claims) | R 447 080.00 |
|  | **TOTAL** | **R 31 158 590** |

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