**8 June 2023**

**MAP de Bruyn: FF Plus**

**Vote 17: Higher Education and Training**

Chair.

Quoting from a BusinessTech Article from June last year “The Professional Provident Society (PPS) has warned that government needs to do more to improve the standard of education in South Africa, saying that students themselves have largely lost faith in the quality of learning they receive at universities.” Close quote

According to a survey conducted by the financial services group, found that as many as 25% of studying professionals felt they were insufficiently prepared for higher education, while 43% of the students said that they had been moderately prepared.

The survey included responses from more than 3000 students with a focus on professional degrees.

The majority of students said they had no confidence in the standard of higher education offered by South African universities when compared internationally.

Chair

We believe that the Minister should focus on improving the quality of education in our institutions, rather than just increasing funding.

Protests actions and unrest in some universities highlight the need for effective management and accountability in the use of funds and We urge the Minister to ensure that universities are held accountable for their spending and that the quality of education remains a priority.

Chair, regarding NSFAS, it is commendable that the government is providing financial assistance to those who cannot afford to pay for their studies, But the system has proven to be flawed Hon. Chair.

The administrative inefficiencies and delays in the allocation of funds have resulted in many eligible students being left out of the system and ultimately dropping out due to financial constraints.

We need a more streamlined and effective system that ensures that every student receives the necessary funding on time.

Furthermore, Hon Chair, Over the last few years NSFAS reportedly had a loss of more R50 billion of irregular expenditures.

With an average cost of R105 000 for a full-time student getting a degree in South Africa, 476 000 students could have received their degrees with that same R50 billion.

The corruption and maladministration issues at the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) must be addressed And we need to take an honest look at How many of the students that receive NSFAS funding are eligible, how many of these graduated and What amount of funding were waisted on drop-out students?

Voorsitter

Die opvoedkundige gehalte in Suid-Afrika is swak, ten spyte van relatief hoë vlakke van publieke besteding aan onderwys.

Die land bestee gemidelde 6 % van sy BBP op onderwys, wat goed vergelyk met baie Ander-lande.

Die begroting en befondsing vir hoër onderwys is duidelik nie die hoofkwessie of probleem nie, aangesien ons onderwysbegroting goed vergelyk met die Ander lande as ‘n persentasie van die BBP, en oorskry selfs in per capita-terme dié van die meeste eweknie lande Suid van die Sahara.

Die hoof oorsake vir swak onderwys is veelvlakkig en word geassosieer met onvoldoende vakkennis van sommige dosente, geskiedenis, ras, taal, geografiese ligging en sosio-ekonomiese status.

Lae opvoedkundige prestasie dra by tot lae produktiwiteitsgroei, en hoë vlakke van armoede en werkloosheid.

Onderrig in Suid-Afrikaanse universiteite en ander Tersiëre fasilliteite word deur 'n magdom uitdagings geknou.

Dosente het nie basiese vaardighede en noodsaaklike hulpbronne om onderrig en leer effektief te fasiliteer nie.

Verder word kwaliteitmaatstawwe wat deur die Raad op Hoër Onderwys gestel is, slegs op papier gehaal en min of niks word gedoen om dit in die praktyk toe te pas nie.

Voorsitter, die regering en die departement moet ophou om die verlede te blameer vir die tekortkominge in onderwys in Suid-Afrika. Geen kind of student baat daaruit nie. Erken dat julle in 30 jaar nie suksesvol kon regeer nie en word deel van die oplossing eerder as om nog probleme te skep deur die rasse haat wat julle propageer.

Ons jeug wil focus op die toekoms voorsitter, nie vashak in die verlede nie. Dit is die regering se plig om te verseker dat ons jeug ’n toekoms het om na te streef en voor te werk.

Dit voorsitter sal een die 1ste prioriteite van die nuwe regering wees na die 2024 verkiesing.

Dankie