**Begrotingspos Binnelandse sake/Budget vote Home affairs Jaco Mulder LP**

 22 Julie 2020

**Departement binnelandsesake verkeer toenemend onder druk om sy mandaat uit te voer**

Agbare voorsitter

Die rol wat die department van Binnelandse sake moet vervul om die identiteit van Suid Afrikaanse burgers te beskerm, die migrasie van mense te reguleer en ook die land se internasionale verpligtinge na te kom wat bewegingsregulering betref, verkeer onder enorme druk as gevolg van die internasionale en plaaslike inperkingsregulasies en reisverbod.

Hierdie mandaat bly egter sentraal staan tot binnelandse veiligheid, asook die beskerming van Suid Afrikaanse burgers waar hul ookal in die buiteland mag wees.

The fact that the department was forced to work with skeleton staff in compliance with national lockdown regulations, had a detrimental effect on the abilty of the department to fulfil it’s mandate, ecpecially to the disadvantage of South African citizens stranded abroad without valid travel documents.

During the lockdown period, the demand for the issuance of uncollected identification documents, temporary identification certificates, registrations of birth and death and passports to those in export and cargo exports, exceeded the ability of the department to deliver.

Honourable chair

In considering the reduced special adjusted budget in the department's allocation by R 562 million when compared to the 2020/21 main allocation, and a further R 1 billion when compared to the previous year without considering inflation, one could expect an even greater inability of the department to fulfil it’s mandate than before Covid 19.

The Freedomfront Plus is concerned about the impact of the reduced special adjusted budget on the ability of the IEC to prepare for by elections as well as the 2021 local government elections and even with the consideration of an e-voting system as a means to increase operational efficiencies, the Freedomfront Plus will keep an watchful eye.

The task of amending the Electoral Act (No 78 of 1998) as ordered by the Constitutional Court in June 2020 in the New Nation Movement vs President of the Republic of South Africa case, will pose an additional challenge on the budget of the department.

The Freedom front Plus will not support this budget vote

Thank you chair