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| MEMORANDUM FROM THE PARLIAMENTARY OFFICE |

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 1015**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION OF INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 29/05/2020**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 18 OF 2020**

**Prof B Bozzoli (DA) to ask the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology:**

What (a) number of entities reporting to him as well as entities within his department paid consultants to write their (i) strategic and/or (ii) annual performance plans, (b) amount did each consultant charge, (c) was the total cost to his department for outsourcing the plans and (d) were the reasons for outsourcing? **NW1304E**

**REPLY:**

**DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

| Entity: | (a). Was there any paid consultants used to write the;   (i) Strategic Plan,  (ii) Annual Performance Plans? | (b) Amount that each consultant charge? | (c) What was the total cost to his department/entity for outsourcing the plans? | (d) What were the reasons for outsourcing? |
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| CHE | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable |
| INSETA | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable |
| CHIETA | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable |
| SAQA | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable |
| MerSETA | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable |
| FP&M SETA | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable |
| CHIETA | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable |
| CETA | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable |
| ETDP SETA | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable |
| TETA | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable |
| EWSETA | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable |
| SASSETA | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable |
| HWSETA | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable |
| FoodBev SETA | 1. Strategic Plan - Yes for facilitation of Board strategy 2. Annual Performance Plans - No | i. R40 250  ii. Not applicable | 1. R40 250 | There was no outsourcing of the developing of the plans however there was a facilitator who facilitated the board strategy session that led to the development of the strategic outcomes by the Board |
| LGSETA | The consultant was appointed and paid to facilitate the strategic planning session only for 2020/21 financial year. The development of the plans were done internally    Appointed Service provider: Simulation Consultants CC | R145 000 | R145 000 | The consultant was appointed for facilitation of the strategic planning session only because he/she had to give an external perspective/insight on the review of the five year plans ensuring that the session addresses the new developmental goals assigned for our sector during the strategic planning session. |
| AgriSETA | Strategic Plan, Sector Skills Plan, Annual Report and Annual Performance Plan | Regenesy -R93 100  Blackmoon Advertising – R283 426 | R376 400 | AgriSETA doesn’t appoint service provider for writing APP and Strategic plans, management write and prepare those documents    A consultant is only appointed to edit and design and layout, printing of the documents etc since we have no graphic designers internally. That part is outsourced because we have no graphic design and printing equipment to produce such documents including annual reports. |
| MICT SETA | Motif Capital Partner | R 66 240 | R 66 240 | ‒      The introduction of a new framework for the development of Strategic plans was quite different from the previous framework.    ‒      The lateness of the introduction of the framework versus submission timelines. |
| NSFAS | YES | R490 000.00 | Refer (b) | When the Entity was placed under Administration one of the major concerns and challenges was the substandard work that came from the Planning and Monitoring Unit in terms of the Strategic Plan and Annual Performance Plan. The onboarding of a specialist was to assist the Entity to meet this requirement. The mandate ranged from providing ad-hoc advice on the design of SMART indicators in relations to targets to the training of key staff on the design in order to avoid submitting a sub-standard work. |
| QCTO | The services of facilitators from Government Technical Advisory Centre (GTAC) was engaged for supporting the development of the strategic plans. | R 919 296.00 | R 919 296.00 | QCTO used GTAC as the new Framework for Medium Term Planning was introduced by DPME and the QCTO needed capacity building for management to develop plans that comply with the new framework. The process was not outsourced but GTAC facilitated and guided the process. QCTO management with full consultation of staff developed the plans across all levels of the organisation. |
| FASSET | Africa International Advisors | R 115 000.00 | R115 000 | Due to internal capacity constraints and the new framework which was introduced. This was to ensure that we were able to adhere to the requirements of this new framework. |
| CATHSSETA | Yes | R247  068 | R247  068 | 1.  Due to the DPME revised framework on SPs and APPs the CATHSSETA acquired the services of an experienced and reputable company to assist in the compilation of the documents. The framework had a lot of changes that required the SETA to appoint someone who is knowledgeable about the new planning needs etc. It must be noted that Ziko Consulting played a supportive role in the process and the CATHSSETA team managed the entire consultation and approval process.  2.   The SETA is also challenged with capacity issues within the unit in terms of human resources, therefore a support structure is required for the short term to assist professional compilation of such these entity strategic do documents. |
| W&RSETA | W&RSETA contracted Underhill Corporate Solutions for the compilation of its Strategic Plan and Annual Performance Plan | The contracted company (Underhill Corporate Solutions) assigned 4 of its employees to the project; and the total amount charged by the company was R489 670.00. | R489 670.00. | Limited resources as the unit only had one employee responsible for strategic planning. |

**DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND INNOVATION**

The entities reporting to the Minister did not outsource the writing of the Strategic Plans or Annual Performance Plans, and responded as follows:

1. (a) None. The Department of Science and Innovation, National Research Foundation, Academy of Science of South Africa, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research Council, Human Sciences Research Council, National Advisory Council on Innovation and South African National Space Agency did not pay consultants to write the:
2. (i) Strategic Plan; and/or
3. (ii) Annual Performance Plan.
4. (b) Nil.
5. (c) Not Applicable (N/A).
6. (d) N/A.