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| MEMORANDUM FROM THE PARLIAMENTARY OFFICE |

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 113**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION OF INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 09/02/2023**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 1 OF 2023**

**Mr S S Zondo (IFP) to ask the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation:**

With reference to the upcoming Zimbabwean Exemption Permits deadline, which poses a potential obstacle to students who would like to further their studies and/or continue their current studies in the Republic, what steps has his department taken to ensure that there is continuous and purposeful integration of students into the domestic learning environment in alignment with his department’s internationalisation mission in universities? **NW117E**

**REPLY:**

The Department of Home Affairs is responsible for determining the upcoming Zimbabwean Exemption Permits deadline for students who would like to further their studies and/or continue their current studies in the Republic. Students are allowed to apply for their study permits, the current permit deadline date is 30 June 2023.

The Department of Higher Education and Training has however, put in the necessary measures to ensure the enablement of internationalisation in the higher education space and ensure that there are no constraints hindering prospective international students to study in South Africa, within the allowed parameters. Structures that have been put in place include the overarching Policy Framework for Internalization of Higher Education guiding the mobility of student and staff in higher education.

Other measures that have been put in place to enable continuous and purposeful integration of students into the domestic learning environment in alignment with the Department’s internationalisation mission at local universities include the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Protocol on Education and Training. This international agreement is designed to enable student and lecturer mobility within the SADC region. This agreement requires all member states to reserve at least 5% of admission for students from SADC national, other than their own. South Africa at this stage hosts the largest number of international students within the SADC region than any other member country.