Official reply: 06 June 2016

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION 1167/2016**

**FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

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**1167. Ms B S Masongo (DA) to ask the Minister of Social Development:**

Whether any (a) strategies and/or (b) plans have been developed by her department in collaboration with the SA Social Security Agency to take over the distribution of social grants once the contract with Net1’s subsidiary Cash Paymaster Services ends in 2017; if not, (i) why not and (ii) by what date will such (aa) strategies and/or (bb) plans be developed; if so, what are the relevant details? NW1306E

**Reply:**

(a) and (b) Following the decision not to award to re-advertised tender in October 2015, SASSA immediately started working on developing a plan to ensure that it is ready to take over the responsibility for the management of social grant payments as from April 2017, when the current contract with Cash Paymaster Services expires.

The plans developed take into account the recommendations made by the Ministerial Committee appointed to investigate options for social grant payments which were contained in the report released in December 2014. In addition, CSIR has been working with SASSA since February 2014 to assist with the development of specific work packages related to taking over the responsibility for biometric enrolment.

The plan developed contains details of all actions required to meet the deadline, with responsibilities and target dates indicated. The implementation of the plan developed is currently underway.

(i) Not applicable

(ii) Not applicable