**MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (NA)**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER (IQP) No. 1**

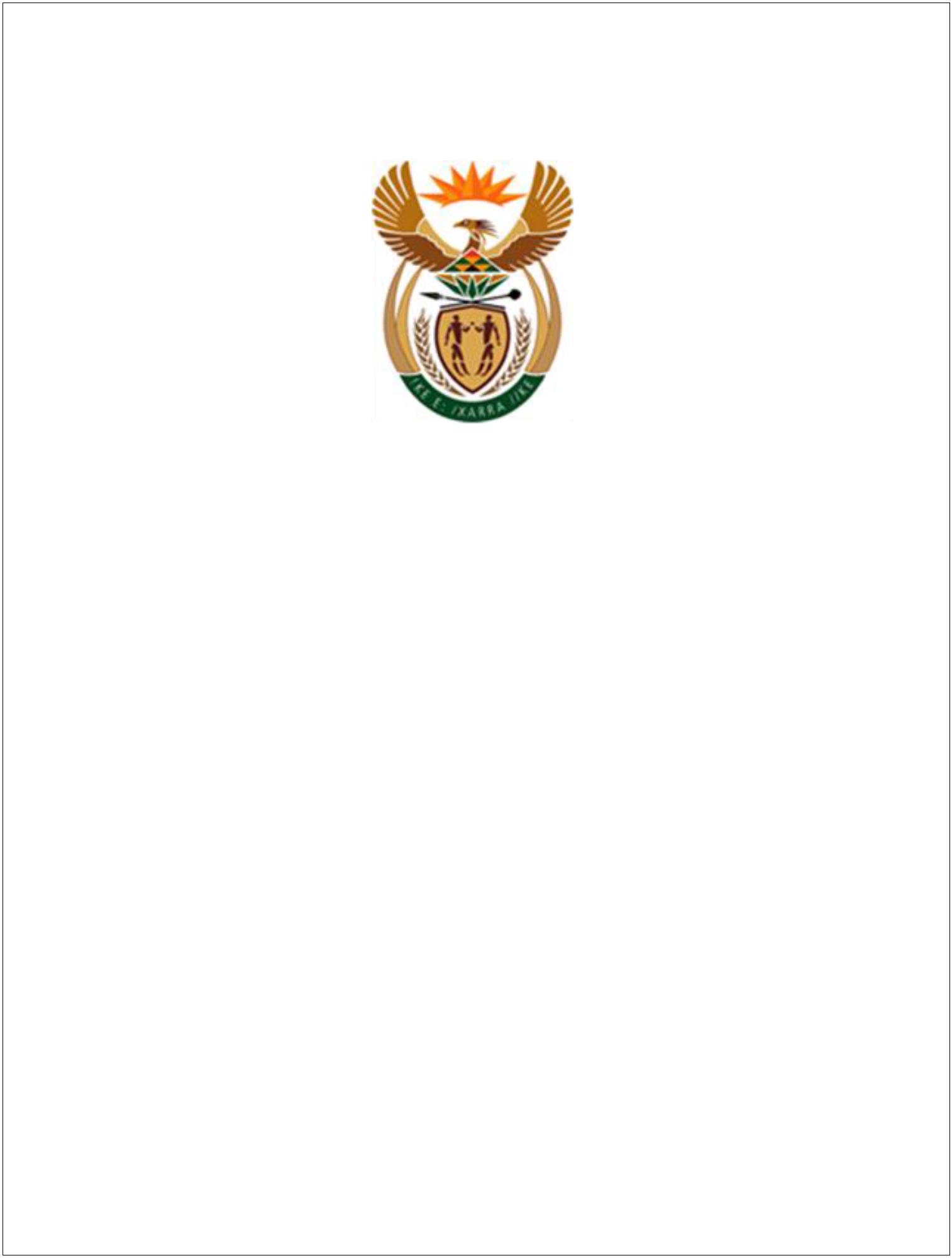
**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NO: 120**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION: 10 FEBRUARY 2022**

**REPLY RECOMMENDED BY**

**MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS: MP**

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**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (NA)**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NUMBER: 120**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION: 10 FEBRUARY 2022**

**Mr S J F Marais (DA) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:**

(1) Whether the (a) 21 Squadron and/or (b) SA Air Force was responsible for the travel

arrangements of the Deputy President, Mr D D Mabuza, to Russia for medical reasons,

as alluded to by the President of the Republic, Mr M C Ramaphosa, during his reply

to a supplementary question on oral question number 8 on 3 September 2021; if not,

what is the position in this regard; if so,

(2) whether he has, on each visit to Russia since 1 January 2020, travelled with (a) one

of the VVIP aircraft of 21 Squadron, (b) chartered aircraft and/or (c) commercial airlines

with reference to his reply to question 1874 on 10 September 2021; if not, what is the

position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details;

(3) What were the full detailed costs of (a) travel and (b) other arrangements by the SA

National Defence Force as a consequence of his travel and the duration of his stay in

Russia?

**REPLY:**

His Excellency President M.C. Ramaphosa on the 03 September 2021 during his oral reply, stated

that the “…whenever the President or the Deputy President goes, at any given time, the

transportation is the responsibility underline of the government. When they fly it is the

responsibility of the Airforce…”

The Honourable Member is invited to listen to the recording of the President again.

The VVIP unit of the SAAF did not task or undertake any flights for the Deputy President to Russia

from 01 January 2020 to date. The unit and the Department is not privy to any arrangements the

Deputy President may or may not have made regarding his travel to Russia. Arrangements for

flights are only made through the Office of the President or the Deputy President. We have no

record of such request and therefore did not make any arrangement.

The Department is unable to comment on question number 2 and 3.

