**MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (NA)**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER No.1**

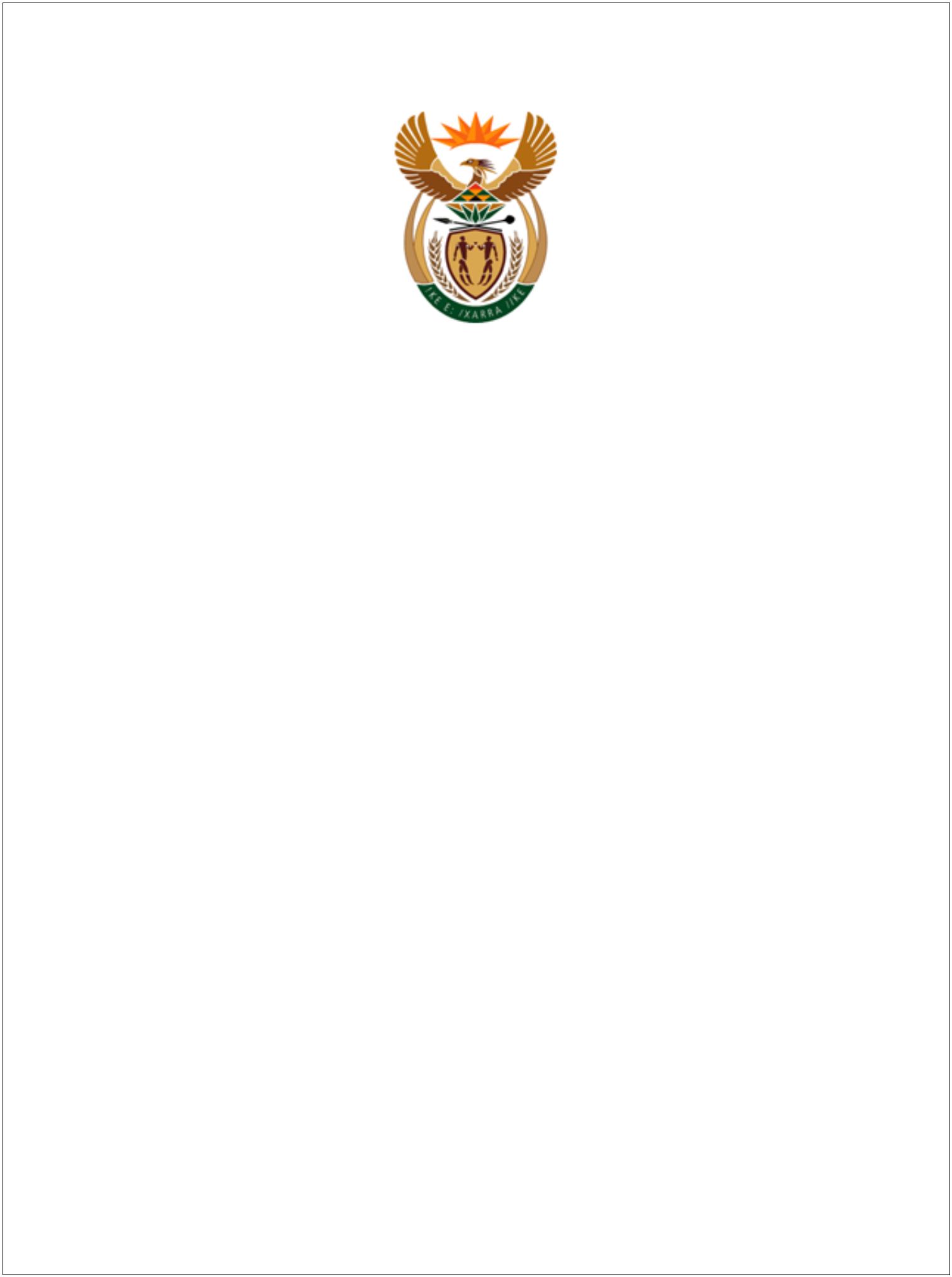
**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NO: 121**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION 10 FEBRUARY 2022**

**REPLY RECOMMENDED BY**

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

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**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NO 121**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION 10 FEBRUARY 2022**

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

(1)

With reference to a certain person’s complaint of non-payment of her final

compensation (name and details furnished) and the report of the Military Ombud’s (name

furnished) investigation into the matter (details furnished) that was finalised and signed on

27 January 2020 with valid and appropriate recommendation and a request to her office to

ensure that appropriate relief is implemented within three months from the date of the

signature, where the latter recommended to her to assure that payment to the specified

person is made, what is the reason why nothing was confirmed and/or paid to the specified

person;

(2)

in light of the complaint that was submitted to the Military Ombud on 3 April 2018

and finalised under signature of the Military Ombud on 27 January 2020, (a) on what date

will the specified person receive her lawful and rightful compensation and (b) what has she

found to be the reasons for the non-implementation of the (i) Military Ombud’s

recommendations in article 7 of the final report and (ii) request to her office in article 8 of

the final report?

**REPLY:**

(1)

Following the Military Ombud (MO) Investigation Report MO/DIA/12/1/0008/18-19

dated 27 January 2020, the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans (MOD&MV)

commissioned an inclusive and comprehensive audit of the Occupation Specific

Dispensation (OSD) for nurses in the South African Military Health Service (SAMHS). The

aim of the audit was to ensure accuracy and guarantee that no nurse with a similar

complaint was left out. Subsequent to the audit, a submission, which included the possible

complainant, was approved by the MOD&MV for the payment of all affected personnel.

(2)

The Department of Defence (DOD) is in the process of capturing and finalising all

outstanding final compensation resulting from the audit and submission as approved by

the MOD&MV. The payment of all outstanding compensations will be finalised before the

end of the 2021/2022 financial year.

a) Recommendations were not yet ratified by the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans

for implementation, but rather for all-inclusive and Comprehensive audit of OSD for nurses

in the South African Medical Health Services (SAMHS) to ensure accuracy and guarantee

that no nurse with a similar complaint is left out.

(b)It is not necessary to take actions against any person in the Department and the South African

National Defence Force (SANDF) as this was structural issues rather than negligence or human

error.

(c) No date can be provided yet for the person to receive the payments which are in line with the

findings and recommendations by the MO. The Minister is yet to pronounce implementation based

on her approval of the comprehensive audit report. However, determination has been made to

identify areas for funding the shortfalls on approval by the Minister.

(d) The findings and recommendations of the MO in terms of the Mil Ombud Act are advisory in

nature until they are endorsed by the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans. The OSD audit for

all nurses was completed and is receiving further attention from the Minister of Defence and

Military Veterans. For further endorsement.

(e) Money spent on the Office of the MO is still valuable, and the Department sees the Military

Ombud as a force multiplier to accomplish other successes than without it.

