**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION NO. 1379-2022**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO.14–2022, DATE OF PUBLICATION 22 APRIL 2022**

**“Mr K Ceza (EFF) to ask the Minister of Sport, Arts and Culture:**

What (a) progress has his department made in supporting the creative industry in order to ensure funding resources for establishing, subsidising and ensuring black ownership of studios which would ultimately provide work, gigs and/or sessions for all artists in each regional area of the Republic, (b) are the (i) time frames and (ii) relevant details in this regard? **NW1671E**

**REPLY**

The Department of Sport, Arts and Culture (DSAC) bought the Downtown Music Hub equipped with high standard studios as part of addressing a challenge for artists who could not have access to proper facilities and artists who could not access facilities easily. The Department has assisted this facility in ensuring that there are artists developmental programmes that are in–house serving to develop; empower and provide artists with opportunity to enhance their art.

The Department is currently; as part of implementation of the Revised White Paper on Arts; Culture and Heritage developing a music strategy which seeks to advance the young music business entrepreneurs country–wide. This is currently an on–going consultation process with the music sector.

Further the Department continues with its program of creation of spaces in different provinces which is also intended for enhancement of the creative industries. Over and above these initiatives; the Department is implementing both the Presidential Employment Stimulus Program and the Mzansi Golden Economy strategy which are programs geared towards supporting artists and expansion of the Cultural and Creative Industries.