****

**MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

Private Bag X424, Pretoria, 0001, South Africa. Tel. (+27 12) 444 6780, Fax (+27 12) 444 7027

Private Bag X9154, Cape Town, 8000, South Africa. Tel. (+27 21) 469 5800, Fax: (+27 21) 465 3216

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY:**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY:**

**Question Number: 1389**

**Date of Publication: 3 July2020**

**NA IQP Number: 24**

**Date of reply: 25 August 2020**

**Inkosi B N Luthuli (IFP) to ask the Minister of Tourism**

(Transferred from the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition)

What scientific backing went into the decision to reopen cinemas and casinos during the Covid-19 pandemic? NW1760E

**REPLY:**

As Honorable member would know, cinemas fall under the mandate of the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture.

As for the reopening of casinos, it was informed by the stringent preventative protocols developed by the casino industry, which were deemed adequate to prevent the spread of infections from a health point of view. These included adequate social distancing and spacing between machines, wearing of masks, frequent sanitization, different entrances for staff and patrons, screening of patrons and staff, keeping a register, arrangements for isolation room where necessary, booking of slots before arrival, and mainly working with membership based clientele amongst others.