**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NO.1606**

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**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER 16 – 2023**

**1606. Ms L L van der Merwe (IFP) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:**

(1) What mechanisms are in place to ensure that once permits and/or visas expire, foreign nationals who are deemed illegal within the borders leave the Republic;

(2) whether the process stops with the visa denial; if not, what are the reasons that no further steps are taken; if so, what are the full relevant details NW1746E

**REPLY:**

1. The following mechanisms are in place to ensure people with expired visas/permits leave the republic;
   1. Immigration inspections/operations for detecting those without lawful documentation to be in South Africa;
   2. Tracing of overstayers found on the movement control system
   3. Overstay declaration and bans from re-entering the country from 1 to 5 years, depending on the length of overstay - Should a person with an expired visa/permit leave the country;
   4. Inability to transact for services or work
2. If a person is denied a visa and exhausts all appeals relating to that visa they are given an order to leave and if they remain they will be doing so illegally.

**END**