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**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION 1617**

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**Dr M J Cardo (DA) to ask the Minister of Economic Development:**

With reference to the conference on inclusive development and industrialisation hosted by his department in 2017, what (a) was his department’s (i) budget and (ii) actual expenditure in respect of the conference and (b) were the costs to his department for a certain person’s (name furnished) participation in the conference? NW1767E

 **REPLY:**

Normally a Conference of this nature would cost in excess of a million rand for travel of an international speaker, fees associated with the speaker (a Nobel Laureate in Economics), flights for local delegates, accommodation, venue and catering.

The Ministry arranged to have the event done in partnership with the University of Witwatersrand, who provided the venue and certain costs associated with the event.

The Economic Development Department paid R46 124 for the event, to cover part of the cost of catering and travel for local delegates. The Economic Development Department did not incur any costs at all for Professor Stiglitz, as he was already in the country at his own cost on business unrelated to the Department and he did not charge a speaker’s fee for speaking at the EDD event.

**-END-**