**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION NO. 1671-2022**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO.15–2022, DATE OF PUBLICATION 29 APRIL 2022**

**“Mr. TW Mhlongo (DA) to ask the Minister of Sport, Arts and Culture:**

With reference to the outreach events of the SILAPHA Wellness Intervention Programme in May and/or June 2021, wherein SILAPHA was planning two awareness campaigns but had cancelled the events due to heightened COVID-19 restrictions, (a) where were events scheduled to take place and (b) what alternative interventions did SILAPHA put into place, given that this was also a heightened period of crisis in which artists were finding themselves? **NW1999E**

**REPLY**

1. The two events were scheduled to take place in KwaZulu Natal and the Eastern Cape
2. A call centre has been established to assist creatives and athletes around the clock as they require assistance with the services provided by the Silapha Wellness programme. Different social media platforms have been provided where artists and athletes are able to interact with experts in the area of mental health; financial management etc.

Interventions were also made through the Silapha Ambassadors who use their social media platforms to engage the creatives and athletes on the work done by Silapha and for them to ask questions and get direct response/assistance from Silapha counsellors.