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**Memorandum from the Parliamentary Office**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 174**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION OF INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 08/02/2018**

**(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 1 OF 2018)**

**Mr Z R Xalisa (EFF) to ask the Minister of Higher Education and Training:**

(1) What contracts did the National Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences (NIHSS) have with a certain person (name and details furnished) in the (a) 2015-16, (b) 2016-17 financial years and (c) since 1 April 2017;

(2) (a) what was the total monetary value of each contract and (b) how is the contract with the specified person contributing to the mandate of the NIHSS?

**NW181E**

**REPLY:**

The National Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences (NIHSS) has provided the following responses to the questions posed.

1. The NIHSS has a contract with MSMM (a law firm) to supply legal services, including the vetting of NIHSS contracts and legal opinions.
2. No contracts were awarded in the 2015/16 financial year.
3. A two-year contract was awarded in the 2016/17 financial year.
4. The contract indicated in (b) above is for a period of two years and therefore continues into the 2017/18 financial year.
5. (a) The amount of the contract is R495 000.

(b) One mandate of the NIHSS is to advance postgraduate scholarships to qualifying students. This requires the NIHSS to sign funding contracts with students who are awarded scholarships. The contracts need to be legally b

Over and above student contracts, the NIHSS also has contracts with service providers that are procured through the supply chain management process. The contracts with service providers need to be legally binding to ensure that the NIHSS is covered in the event of any dispute, and also to ensure that the quality of goods and services are monitored.

MSMM was appointed to vet all NIHSS contracts. This contributes to the mandate of the NIHSS as it supports work done on scholarships as well as NIHSS’s operations.

**COMPILER DETAILS**

NAME AND SURNAME: MS PEARL WHITTLE

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**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Minister signs Parliamentary Question 174.

MR GF QONDE

DIRECTOR–GENERAL: HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING

DATE:

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION 174 IS APPROVED / NOT APPROVED / AMENDED.

COMMENT/S

PROF HB MKHIZE, MP

MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING

DATE: