

**MINISTRY**

**PUBLIC WORKS**

**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NUMBER: 1831 [NW1990E]**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO.: No. 19 of 2018**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION: 01 JUNE 2018**

**DATE OF REPLY: 02 JULY 2018**

**1831. Mr W Horn (DA) asked the Minister of Public Works:**

(1) Whether (a) his spouse and/or (b) an adult family member accompanied him on any official international trip (i) in each of the past five financial years and (ii) since 1 April 2018; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what (aa) is the name of the person(s), (bb) was the (aaa) purpose and (bbb) destination of the trip and (cc) was the (aaa) total cost and (bbb) detailed breakdown of the costs of the accompanying person(s) to his department;

(2) whether each of the specified trips were approved by the President in terms of the provisions of Section 1, Annexure A of the Ministerial Handbook; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? **NW1990E**

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**The Minister of Public Works**

**REPLY:**

In 2015, Mr T W Nxesi, MP, as the Minister of Public Works and accompanied by his spouse, Mrs Nombulelo Nxesi, undertook an international trip from 27 to 31 March 2015 to Singapore to represent the Government and the President of the Republic of South Africa at the State funeral of Singapore’s founding Prime Minister, the late Mr Lee Kuan Yew. The cost with respect to the spouse as the accompanying person was R145 810.60.The trip was approved by the President of the Republic in terms of the provisions of Section 1, Annexure A, of the Ministerial Handbook.

In 2015, the Minister was accompanied by Mrs Nxesi on an official trip to Cuba from 13 to 20 December 2015 in preparation for the recruitment of Cuban Technical Advisors to the country, for purposes of skills transfer and capacity development to the benefit of the Department of Public Works. The cost in respect of the accompanying person was R112 561.42. The trip was approved by the President of the Republic in terms of the provisions of Section 1, Annexure A, of the Ministerial Handbook.

In 2017, the then Minister of Public Works, Mr N Nhleko, was accompanied by his spouse, Dr Yvonne Nomcebo Mthembu, to China, from 22 to 31 August 2017. The purpose of the trip was to attend the Ministerial Workshop on China’s developmental experience for developing countries. The cost in respect of the accompanying person was R119 307.14. The trip was approved by the President of the Republic in terms of the provisions of Section 1, Annexure A, of the Ministerial Handbook.

In 2017 the former Minister of Public Works was accompanied by his spouse, Dr Mthembu, to France on 6 - 12 July 2017, in order to attend the 101st Commemoration of the Battle of Delvillewood. The cost in respect of the accompanying person for the trip was R71, 830.14. The trip was approved by the President of the Republic in terms of the provisions of Section 1, Annexure A, of the Ministerial Handbook.

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