**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY:**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY:**

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**Date of reply:**

**Ms H S Winkler (DA) to ask the Minister of Tourism:**

Whether there is funding available from her department for community tourism organisations (CTOs) in rural areas as part of her department’s initiative to promote tourism in villages, towns and small dorpies (VTSDs); if not, how does her department plan to promote tourism in VTSDs without empowering local CTOs; if so, (a) how and (b) what criteria apply to CTOs in rural areas when they apply for funding as part of her department’s initiative to promote VTSDs? NW2239E

**REPLY:**

1. and (b)

Community Tourism Organisations (CTOs) are independent associations based on voluntary participation by their membership. The organisations are responsible for their own operations including financial aspects thereof. The Department of Tourism does not fund CTOs. The work of the department is guided by the Annual Performance Plan wherein all the details are provided.