**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**“2065. Mr T E Mulaudzi (EFF) to ask the Minister of Small Business Development:**

 **Whether (a) her department and/or (b) any entities reporting to her are funding, including by way of discretionary funding, any institution of research and development (i) domestically and/or (ii) internationally; if so, (aa)(aaa) what are the names of the specified institutions and (bbb) what are their functions, (bb) from what date has her department or any entity reporting to her been funding them and (cc) what amount has her department contributed towards such funding?”**

**NW2287E**

**REPLY:**

1. **The Department of Small Business Development (DSBD)**

The DSBD has not funded any institution of Research and Development (i) domestically nor (ii) internationally and does not have a discretionary fund in place.

(aa)(aaa) Not applicable.

(aa)(bbb) Not applicable.

(aa)(bb) Not applicable.

(aa)(cc) Not applicable.

**(b) The Small Enterprise Finance Agency (SEFA)**

SEFA does not fund any institution of research and development (i) domestically nor (ii) internationally.

(aa)(aaa) SEFA, however, acknowledges the importance of research and has established research collaborations with some of the South African Universities. SEFA has established research collaboration with the University of South Africa (Unisa), North West University (NWU), University of Free State (UFS) and University of Stellenbosch.

(aa)(bbb) The scope of the research collaboration with the universities focuses on cooperative research between SEFA and the institutions on issues relating to access to finance for SMMEs and Co-operative Enterprises.

(aa)(bb) Not applicable.

 (aa)(cc) Not applicable.

**(b) Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA)**

 SEDA has not funded any Research and Development institutions.

(aa)(aaa) Nonetheless, SEDA has Service Agreements with Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) and Bureau Economic Research (BER).

(aa)(bbb)(i) SEDA partnered with GEM South Africa through University of Cape Town to participate in the research study that support SMMEs products and policy developments); and

(aa)(bbb)(ii) BER is the research partner housed at the University of Stellenbosch – assist with compiling Economy Sector update to tract the development in the SMME Sector).

 (aa)(bb) Not applicable.

 (aa)(cc) Not applicable.