**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 2514**

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**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 29/2017**

**2514. Mr D Bergman (DA) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

(a) What number of staff members are employed in the vetting and verification unit at the SA Council of Educators (SACE) and (b) what steps is SACE taking to ensure that it has the requisite capacity for vetting and verifying the volume of applications that it receives for the listing in teachers’ roll? NW2771E

**RESPONSE:**

1. Eight (8) staff members have been allocated the vetting and verification responsibilities as part of the processing of registration of applications.
2. Currently the South African Council for Educators (SACE) is conducting visual verification at the office. However Council is working on a process of re-conceptualizing vetting and verification with an ultimate goal of streamlining the processes and establishing a formal institutional network that will play a more meaningful role in this area. The reconceptualisation process also includes the review of the registration criteria to include, fitness-to-practice as a new concept that will incoporate issues of vetting and verification within a broader context of professional registration. Council is persuing establishing institutional networks with e.g the South African Qualifications Authority; Department of Home Affairs and the Africa Forum of Teaching Regulatory Authorities (AFTRA) to enhance its registration process.