**QUESTION 2555. Mr T W Mhlongo (DA) to ask the Minister of Sport and Recreation:**

With regard to Athletics South Africa (ASA), (a) who was appointed as Team Leader for the South African team travelling to the (i} 2018 World Half Marathon Championships in Valencia, Spain, (ii} 2018 Junior and Youth Championships in London and (iii) 2016 Wor1d 1 00km Championships in Los Alcazares, Spain, (b) which ASA officials and/or representatives are required to travel on the same flights with the athletes selected to represent South Africa overseas, {c) in what circumstances would an ASA official and/or representative, other than the Head of Delegation, be authorised to travel separately from the athletes who form part of a South African team competing internationally and (d) what are the relevant details regarding why certain athletes forming part of the South African team which competed at the Wor1d Junior and Youth Championships in London were booked on a flight separate from the ASA officials and/or representatives tasked with managing the team? NW2844E

 **REPLY:**
With regard to Athletics South Africa {ASA),

(a) who was appointed as Team Leader for the South African team travelling to the:

{i) 2018 Wor1d Half Marathon Championships in Valencia, Spain,

2. Mr James Moloi - Chairperson of ASA Road Running Commission.

{ii) 2018 Junior and Youth Championships in London and

3. There were no Youth or Junior Championships in London. The 2018 IMF World Junior Championships took place in Tampere, Finland

4. Mr John Mathane, President of AGN Athletics was the team Leader

(iii) 2016 World 100km Championships in Los Alcazares, Spain

2. Mr George Lamb - Chairperson of ASA Ultra-running Committee

(b) which ASA officials and/or representatives are required to travel on the same flights with the athletes selected to represent South Africa overseas,
2. In line with international standards all teams are accompanied by a Head Of Delegation, Manager for men, Manager for women, Team Coaches, Doctor and Physics. All Management is required to travel with the team. Depending on the size of the team, team management will be enlarged or reduced with a minimum of two management for practical and security reasons.

(c) in what circumstances would an ASA official and/or representative, other than the Head of Delegation, be authorised to travel separately from the athletes who form part of a South African team competing internationally and

2. All Management is required to travel with the team. Where teams travel in more than one flight the T earn Management is also split up to ensure that all team members are accompanied by Team Management. Team managements of teams are not separated by ASA. If due to extraordinary situations e.g. flight delays, custom hold-ups, etc special arrangements will be made on both the departure side and anival side to monitor the travelling of the affected athletes. Example - See travel report of Mr John Mathane below.

(d) what are the relevant details regarding why certain athletes forming part of the South African team which competed at the World Junior and Youth Championships in London were booked on a flight separate from the ASA officials and/or representatives tasked with managing the team?

3. The question is based on incorrect information. The 2017 IAAF World Youth Championships took place in Kenya. The 2018 IAAF World Junior Championships took place in Finland. The team flew via Istanbul to Tampere Finland and not via London.

4. See the report of travel arrangements of the Team Leader below:

**1. FLIGHTS:**

Our flights were booked by ASA Office at Turkish Airline TK 0043. We boarded our flight on the 07 July 2018 at 18:25 and arrived at 05:00 08 July 2018 safely at the Istanbul, International Airport and we were connected to from Istanbul, to Finland departed at 08:30 and arrives at 11:55 in Helsinki International Airport, upon our arrival in Helsinki the Physiotherapist could not find her passport at passport control to enter Finland. John Mathane stayed behind at the airport to assist her, and the rest of us took the 2 hour bus trip to Tampere. We were collected at 14:15 by Finland Federation Athletics delegates and travelled to Tampere city where we were accommodated at Hotel Holiday Inn for check in without any hassles. We return with Turkish Airline TK 004 We boarded our flight at 19:00 and arrived at Istanbul, at 22:25 then we connected at 01:35 to 0 R Tambo International Airport in South Africa at 10:25, we were warmly welcomed by the parents, family members and friends of the Athletes and band it was an exciting moment welcome the T earn to South Africa.

**MS. T. XASA, MP**

**MINISTER OF SPORT AND RECREATION**

**DATE:**