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**PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NO: 2600**

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**QUESTION PAPER NO: 45**

**Mr PT van Damme (DA) to ask the Minister of Communications:**

Whether (a) her department and/or (b) any entities reporting to her sponsored any events over the past two financial years; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, in each case, what (i) was the nature of the specified event, (ii) date was it held, (ii) total amount was paid, (iv) was the purpose of the event, (v) budget were the funds derived from, (vi) were the expected benefits to her department and (vii) actual benefits were derived from the specified sponsorship?**NW3314E**

**REPLY:**

**I have been advised by the Department and Entities as follows:**

**DEPARTMENT:**

1. None

(i) Not Applicable

(ii) Not Applicable

(iii) Nil

(iv) Not Applicable

(v) Not Applicable

(vi) Not Applicable

(vii) Not Applicable

1. The South African Post Office; Postbank; South African Broadcasting Corporation; Film and Publication Board and NEMISA did not sponsor any event in the last two financial years.

Broadband Infraco (BBI) does not actively sponsor events, however it does entertain sponsorships, if able to, that are aligned with the BBI mandate and are developmental oriented and enable a platform for engaging with their customers.

The Universal Service and Access Agency of South Africa (USAASA) did not sponsor any events in the 2018/2019 financial year, however it did in 2019/20.

The Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA) did not sponsor any events in the past two financial years, however it supported the Department in the ITU campaign in 2018. South Africa was voted back into the ITU Council following a four-year absence. This event was funded from the International Relations Conferences Budget as it was in line with the mandate of ICASA.

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| Entity | (i)Nature | (ii)Date held | (iii)Total Amount Paid | (iv)Purpose | (v)Budget funds derived from | (vi)Expected Benefits | (vii)Actual Benefits derived |
| BBI | SITA GovTech Golf Day | 26 October 2019 | R26 086 | The event provided a platform for networking with ICT industry executives, suppliers and stakeholders, including the shareholder and other regulatory bodies. | Own generated funds were used, as BBI does not receive any Treasury allocations | N/A | The expected benefits were achieved during the event. |
| State Information Technology Agency  (SITA) | Conference specifically targets SMMEs. | 3 – 4 April 2018 | Trade Zone 123 t/a Imbizo Events  R216 600.00 | SMME in ICT and Expo Summit | SITA 2018/19 BUDGET | None |  |
| A biannual conference hosted by ARMSCO, DoD and SITA | 18 May 2018 | Military Basis Wonderboom Fonds  R82 500.00 | MICSSA Conference | SITA 2018/19 BUDGET | None |  |
| ICT Publication. Provides SITA profiling in the ICT industry | 13 June 2018 | My Broadband Events  R172 500.00 | MyBroadband Cloud Conference 2018 | SITA 2018/19 BUDGET | None |  |
| SITA invited to represent Public Sector ICT | 19 – 20 June 2018 | Manufacturing Indaba  R230 000.00 | Manufacturing Indaba 2018 | SITA 2018/19 BUDGET | None |  |
| Stakeholder Relations | 5 October 2018 | SENTECH SOC LTD  R65 000.00 | SENTECH Chairperson’s Charity Golf Day | SITA 2018/19 BUDGET | None |  |
| Stakeholder Relations | 29 October 2018 | MSG IT Solutions  R50 000.00 | Woman in ICT Conference /Awards | SITA 2018/19 BUDGET | None |  |
| Customer Relations | 31 October –  3 November 2018 | Kimberley Golf Club  R35 200.00 | Barney Barnato Golf Tournament | SITA 2018/19 budget |  |  |
| Annual ICT Summit hosted in the Eastern Cape, SITA exhibited services and a speaking opportunity as the Lead ICT Agency for Government | 20 - 22 November 2018 | Trade Zone 123 t/a Imbizo Events R552 000 | Eastern Cape 14th Annual ICT Summit 2018 | SITA 2018/19 budget | None |  |
| Annual ICT Summit hosted in the Eastern Cape, SITA exhibited services and speaking opportunity as the Lead ICT Agency for Government | 20 – 21 November 2019 | Trade Zone 123 t/a Imbizo Events R287 500 | Eastern Cape 15th Annual ICT Summit 2019 | SITA 2019/20 budget | None |  |
| ICASA | SA Reception | 02 November 2018 | R 300 000 | To ensure that delegates were able to hear the SA proposal to be voted back into the ITU Council as well as Board Member for the Radio Regulations Board (RRB) | International Relations Conferences Budget | SA to be voted back into the ITU Council | SA was voted back into the ITU Council following a four year absence |
| Sentech | Attached as Annexure |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| USAASA | SITA  GovTech  2019  conference  to be held  at the Durban ICC | 27 – 30  October  2019 | R 145 000.00 | The Conference  bringing together  Government, Industry  and Business on a  multi-layered  engagement. SITA provides a platform  that not only  showcases the latest  technologies,  solutions and trends,  but also brings  together diverse  stakeholders across  the public and private  sectors. | Stakeholder  Engagement  and  Communications | The conference  assists USAASA  to build  successful private  public partnership  for USAF projects that are  implemented by  the Agency  through  exhibition,  attendance of  sessions and  networking  opportunities. | Sponsorship  through  Exhibition space  and Marketing  opportunity pre,  during and post conference |
| The 15th  Annual ICT  Summit  hosted by  Imbizo  Events at  the East  London International Convention Centre  in East  London,  Eastern  Cape | 19 - 21  November  2019 | R 30 000.00 | The Summit is a  platform that aims to  showcase the latest  trends and discuss  solutions and issues,  innovative ideas, and  online  communications  within the industry  across South Africa  with a focus on the  Eastern Cape | Stakeholder  Engagement  and  Communications | The Agency has  interests in ICT  Solutions  highlighting latest  developments,  policies and  growth in the ICT  Industry to  develop South  Africa, As such  this summit  provides an  opportunity to  network with  Government, the  public sector  Chief Information Officers (CIOs) and Private  Sector to solicit  partnerships for  projects in the  Eastern Cape | Sponsorship  through  Exhibition space  Networking and  Marketing  opportunity pre,  during and post  Summit |
| zaDNA | iWeek | 21-23 August 2018  26-28 August 2019 | R 49 205.87 | For ZADNA to market its services to the core internet audience (stakeholders)  in South Africa | ZADNA’s annual iWeek budget item | Yes | Yes |

**Notes: (vii)** SITA - Note that whereas the activity is called sponsorship, it is actually payment for participation in the event, by exhibition of services, attendance of the event, in most cases summits or conferences by SITA representatives and SITA’s speaking slot and branding. The events are strategically targeted and aimed at promoting SITA services and the brand.

**MS. STELLA NDABENI-ABRAHAMS, MP**

**MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES**