**Memorandum from the Parliamentary Office**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 2700**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION OF INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 31/07/2015**

**(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER 26 OF 2015)**

**Mr Y Cassim (DA) to ask the Minister of Higher Education and Training:**

Whether (a) he, (b) his Deputy Minister and (c) any officials in his department travelled to China in the 2014-15 financial year; if so, what was the (i) purpose of each specified visit and (ii)(aa) total cost and (bb) breakdown of such costs of each specified visit?

**NW3131E**

**REPLY:**

1. Yes, I undertook a trip to China from 09 - 12 September 2014.
2. No, the Deputy Minister did not travel to China during the 2014/15 financial year.
3. I was accompanied by my Special Advisor: Mr J Pampallis, Chief Director: International Relations: Mr G Jeppie, Media Liaison Officer: Mr K Nkwanyana, and my Personal Assistant: Ms M Sako.

(i) The purpose of my visit was to participate in the World Economic Forum (WEF), which took place in Tianjin, China, from 09 - 12 September 2014. I was requested by the WEF to chair a working session titled “Skilling STEMS (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)” on 11 September 2014.

(ii) (aa) The total cost of the visit was R293 416.62.

(bb) The breakdown of costs are as follows:

* Flights: R161 485.00
* Accommodation: R47 354.65
* Ground transport: R34 892.97
* Daily allowance: R49 684.00

Compiler/contact persons:

Ext:

DIRECTOR – GENERAL

STATUS:

DATE:

REPLY TO QUESTION 2700 APPROVED/NOT APPROVED/AMENDED

Dr BE NZIMANDE, MP

MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING

STATUS:

DATE: