# QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY QUESTION NO. 2730

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**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER 31 – 2021**

**2730. Mr A C Roos: (DA) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:**

1. Given that it can take several months to get an appointment to apply for a passport and then 12 to 24 months to process such applications, what plans are in place to reduce this unacceptable turnaround time;
2. whether he has considered an online application system for passport renewals from overseas countries with a large number of South African citizens with biometrics to be done at the relevant offices of his department at a South African consulate, embassy, mission and visa and/or permit facilitation centre; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NW3245E

# REPLY

* 1. The department is considering various options including the usage of third parties (e.g. courier companies) to facilitate the turnaround times for passport applications abroad in the interim, while the long-term include the deployment of e-Home Affairs and Live Capture abroad.
  2. The department is in the process to establish the viability of extending the online passport application systems abroad which will significantly shorten the time-frame for issuance of passports. The installation of the e-Home Affairs and Live Capture System in offices abroad is receiving attention.

# END

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