**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION NO.2758-2015**

**FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

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**Mr J Vos (DA) to ask the Minister of Arts and Culture:**

1. Does his Department own the vessels (a) *Susan Kruger*; (b) *The Dias* and (c) *Sikhululekile*; if not (i) what is the (aa) name and (bb) registration number of the company that owns each specified vessel and (ii) which vessels transport staff and tourists to Robben Island;

2. Does his Department contract with private vessel owners to transport staff and tourists to Robben Island; if so, what are the names of the private vessel owners?                                                                                     **(NW3190E)**

**REPLY:**

1. The then, Department of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology, which was split into two separate departments in 2002, owned the vessels, *Susan Kruger* and *The Dias*. The Robben Island Museum owns the vessel *Sikhululekile.*

(i)(aa) the vessels are owned by Government, (bb) the registration numbers of the companies are not required because the vessels are owned by Government, and (ii) all three vessels transport staff and tourist when operational.

   2. The Robben Island Museum does contract with private vessel owners to transport staff and tourists to Robben Island, namely:- Heritage Charters; Nauticat Charters; Southern Right Charters; Silver Buckle Trade 21 CC; Ferry Charters (Schooner Cruisers Pty Ltd); Waterfront Expeditions and Thembekile Maritime Services.