# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

**FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NO. 2759**

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**Dr S S Thembekwayo (EFF) to ask the Minister of Health:**

What is his department’s state of readiness to fight against the fourth wave of the COVID-19 pandemic?

**NW3274E**

# REPLY:

The department started planning for the fourth wave based on the experience from other countries and the advice from the scientists about the third wave. In this regard, the department worked with the provinces, the National Institute of Communicable Diseases, the World Health Organisation (WHO), the scientists and all other stakeholders to prepare for this fourth wave. The preparations resulted in the development of the fourth wave resurgence plan for both National Department and the provinces. The planning covered various areas which are provided for in the original surge planning framework. This plan includes the following:

* The number of beds that are available for admission of CoVid-19 patients
* The number of respiratory support devices
* The capacity and capacity of oxygen supply and reticulation including sustainable availability in the hospitals
* Availability of the Human Resources by encouraging that those who were at the front line be allowed to take leave to recover from the pressure of the third wave.

END.