**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN REPLY

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**Mr A M Matlhoko (EFF) to ask the Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs:**(a) What is he doing about the struggling Vhembe District Municipality which appointed a Municipal Manager who was dismissed from the previous employment for gross incompetence and (b) what is his department doing to assist the municipality's deteriorating situation?

**RESPONSE:**(a) Vhembe District Municipality has been identified as one of the municipalities that is supported in terms of Back to Basics programme. Support that is currently provided by the department includes filling of vacant senior management positions, namely: (1) Municipal Manager; (2) Director: Community Services; and (3) Director: Technical services.

(b) According to the information received from the Limpopo Provincial Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlement and Traditional Affairs, the Vhembe District municipal council resolved that the employment of the municipal manager should not continue as she refused to sign an employment contract. The Council indicated that the terms of the employment contract which the municipal manager refused to agree with are reasonable and in the best interest of the municipality. The department is in the process of seconding an acting municipal manager as requested by the municipal council.