

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

# QUESTION NO. 3013

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## INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER 33 OF 2018

**3013. Mr M Waters (DA) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:**

What steps have been put in place to ensure the Electoral Commission of South Africa is not subjected to cyber attacks and espionage from foreign organisations and countries? NW3327E

**REPLY:**

The Question was referred to the Electoral Commission which responded as follows:

The Electoral Commission has implemented security and access control policies aimed at mitigating the risk of espionage and cyber attacks. These include the following:

1. Access controls – Access to information is controlled and made available on a need to know basis;
2. Security Firewalls – Implemented modern and latest security protection and monitoring systems and devices;
3. Implemented 24\*7/365 real-time monitoring of all security requirements including hacking or attempted hacking, software viruses, malware, etc.
4. Use network segmentation to limit access;
5. Employs and/or contracts only South African professionals in its ICT department;
6. Occasionally commissions an independent audit of the network and data security, in addition to regular security assessment audits by the Internal Audit and the Office of AGSA;
7. Commissions a separate parallel SOC (security operations centre) during major electoral events such as elections; and
8. Has an added filtering later at its ISP (Internet Service Provider).