Official reply: 28 March 2017

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

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**33. Mr L J Basson (DA) to ask the Minister of Social Development:**

(1) Whether the positions to which SA Social Security Agency senior managers were seconded to in regional offices outside of their residential provinces are vacant positions; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, in each case, (a) for how long have the specified positions in the respective regional offices been vacant and (b) by what date will the specified vacancies be filled

(2) what was the total amount in allowances paid, in addition to their normal salaries, to each of the managers for acting in seconded positions during the specified period? **NW36E**

**Reply:**

(1) In terms of the SASSA Staffing Practices Policy, the secondment of employees may be considered under the following circumstances:

* The transfer of skills within the organization; and
* When the need exists to temporarily fill the vacant funded post.

Yes, there were three (3) Senior Managers that were seconded to vacant funded positions outside their residential provinces, for the period 01 April 2015 until 31 January 2017. For the period 01 February 2017 to-date, there are three (3) senior managers seconded to vacant funded posts outside their residential provinces. However, there were four (4) senior managers seconded to fill positions in different environments to gain more experience and strengthen their management capabilities and such secondments ended on the 31 January 2017.

Five (5) Executive Managers were seconded outside their residential provinces:

Three (3) were seconded to vacant posts to head Grant Administration operations and various Regional offices, for the period 01 September 2016 until 31 January 2017. However, two (2) were seconded to head office to manage the special projects, for the period 01 April 2015 until 31 January 2017.

With effect from 01 February 2017, there is only one (1) Executive Manager who is seconded to Head Office special project.

1. The Western Cape General Manager: Finance post has been vacant for twelve (12) months, Eastern Cape General Manager: Finance for eleven (11) months whereas the Northern Cape position has been vacant for twenty five (25) months. The Regional Executive Manager: Free State has been vacant for one month.
2. General Manager Posts were advertised for the Western Cape and Eastern Cape, and no suitable candidates were found and the posts had to be re-advertised, including the post for Regional Manager: Northern Cape.The post of Regional Executive Manager: Free State is in the process of being advertised. These posts is will be filled in the 2017/18 financial year

(2) The total of acting allowances to-date is R 927 390.75.