**Memorandum from the Parliamentary Office**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 331**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION OF INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 19/02/2016**

**(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER 2 OF 2016)**

**Prof B Bozzoli (DA) to ask the Minister of Higher Education and Training:**

(a) What is the project timeline, with specific milestones, for the forensic investigation into the National Student Financial Aid Scheme and (b) when will (i) the specified investigation be concluded and (ii) Parliament receive a report on it?

**NW341E**

**REPLY:**

1. The Department of Higher Education and Training appointed Nexus Forensic Services on 23 September 2015 to conduct an investigation into allegations of fraud and corruption in the allocation of the National Student Financial Aid Scheme loans and bursaries at ten identified public higher education as well as Technical and Vocational Education and Training institutions.
2. (i) The investigation is expected to be concluded within a period of 12 months from the date of the appointment of Nexus Forensic Services.

 (ii) The forensic investigation is conducted within the legal framework of the Constitution and applicable legislation, taking into account any limitations in order not to infringe individual rights. Once the report has been received and after applying due diligence, a decision will be made on releasing of the report.

Compiler/contact persons:

Ext:

DIRECTOR – GENERAL

STATUS:

DATE:

REPLY TO QUESTION 331 APPROVED/NOT APPROVED/AMENDED

Dr BE NZIMANDE, MP

MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING

STATUS:

DATE: