



telecommunications
& postal services

Department:
Telecommunications and Postal Services
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION 354: MINISTER / DEPUTY MINISTER PLANNED INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL, 2019 - 2022

Event	Leader DM / Minister	Destination	Date	Purpose	Number of accompanying officials	Cost estimate (Flights, Accommodation, daily allowance)
2019						
G7	Minister	France	24 – 26 August	The Minister has been invited by the President to accompany him to the G7 Summit. The G7 will have a session on Digital democracy and Artificial Intelligence. The Summit will discuss the way to harness the potential of artificial intelligence in a way that benefits humanity, in line with the work undertaken by previous G7 presidencies and the initiative carried out by France and Canada to create an International Panel on Artificial Intelligence (IPAI). It will also address the issue of the fight against hate speech online, and rapid development of digital technologies and of the data economy.	Chief Director Director Ministry official	Minister: Business class R91 562.00 + Daily allowance R7 598.00 + Accommodation R19 452.00 Officials accompanying: Flights (R181 090.00) + Daily Allowance (R22 794.00) + Accommodation (R58 356.00) TOTAL COST: R380 852.00

International Telecommunications Union (ITU) Telecom World 2019	Deputy Minister	Hungary	9 – 12 September	The ITU Telecom World is an annual exhibition and forum organised by the ITU, for government and industry leaders to explore challenges, partnerships, solutions, and identify investment opportunities and best practices for socio-economic development through ICTs. It aims to deliver economic development and foster social good through its exhibition for digital solutions, and forum for sharing knowledge, and networking. Strategic platform for South African SMMEs to showcase their innovative talent and attract partnership.	ADDG x2 Directors Assistant Director Deputy Ministry official	<p>Deputy Minister: Business class: R53 539.00 + Daily allowance R6 412.00 + Accommodation R33 248.00</p> <p>Officials accompanying: Flights (R117 095) + Daily Allowance (R32 060) + Accommodation (R166 240.00)</p> <p>TOTAL COST: R408 594.00</p>
UNESCO-ITU Broadband Commission	Minister	New York, US	21 – 22 September	The Minister is appointed as Commissioner. This meeting will explore and approve broad approach to child safety online; Digital Infrastructure Moonshot for Africa; and Freedom of Expression and addressing disinformation. The focus is to connect the unconnected and to address unconnected in Africa; as well as address barriers including monopolies and access to the internet.	DDG Infrastructure International official Ministry official	<p>Minister: Business class R67 265.00 + Daily allowance R5 922.00 + Accommodation R13 748.00</p> <p>Officials accompanying: Flights (R166 907.00) + Daily Allowance (R17 766.00) + Accommodation (R41 244.00)</p> <p>TOTAL COST: R312 852.00</p>

<p>Universal Postal Union (UPU) Extraordinary Congress</p>	<p>Minister</p>	<p>Geneva</p>	<p>24-25 September</p>	<p>South Africa is member of the UPU, and signatory to its instruments. This Extraordinary Congress is a statutory meeting, which will result with the adoption of Final Acts (binding treaty to all members). The Extraordinary Congress will discuss and adopt universal remuneration plan for postal services. The main concern is that the Terminal Dues payments create economic distortions and result in considerable losses for some designated postal operators (including SAPO), thus undermining the sustainability of the universal service which the UPU network rely on. The outcome will be a signed agreement by member-states (Final Acts to be signed by the Minister).</p>	<p>DDG Acting Chief Director Director Assistant Director Ministry official</p>	<p>Minister: Business class R76 719.00 + Daily allowance R7 686.00 + Accommodation R16 338.00</p> <p>Officials accompanying: Flights (R282 438.00) + Daily Allowance (R38 430.00) + Accommodation (R206 220.00)</p> <p>TOTAL COST: R627 831.00</p>
<p>SADC Cluster Meeting of Ministers Responsible For ICT, Information, Transport and Meteorology</p>	<p>Minister</p>	<p>Tanzania</p>	<p>16 – 20 September</p>	<p>As a member of SADC, South Africa participates in the SADC Ministerial meetings responsible for ICTs and Postal. Our primarily focus at the SADC is to position South Africa as regional hub, to support the SADC TV Bouquet; SADC Broadband</p>	<p>CD 2x Directors Ministry official</p>	<p>Minister: Business class R16 555.00 + Daily allowance R8 190.00 + Accommodation R7 336.00</p> <p>Officials accompanying: Flights: (R33 970.00) + Daily Allowance (R32 760.00) + Accommodation: (R29 344.00)</p>

				and Regional Internet Exchange Points; and e-Com Africa. South Africa is chairing the SADC programme on 4IR, the development SADC Data Policy and SADC Satellite.		TOTAL COST: R128 155.00
African Union Communication and ICTs (CICT) Ministerial meeting	Minister	Egypt	22 – 26 October	South Africa is a member of AU and elected as a member of the Bureau of the CICT, representing the SADC region. AU CICT is leading process on the development of the 4IR programme in the continent as well as adoption of the Digital Transformation Strategy for Africa. Further, South Africa is driving key programmes aimed at infrastructure connectivity and content platform. Outcomes of discussions are tabled at the AU Summit through the Council.	DDG 2X Directors Ministry official	Minister: Business class R34 192.00 + Daily allowance R6 963.00+ Accommodation R29 994.00 Officials accompanying: Flights: (R86 254.00) + Daily Allowance (R21 268.00) + Accommodation: (R47 976.00) TOTAL COST: R226 647.00
ITU World Radiocommunication Conference ¹	Minister	Sharm El Sheik, Egypt	28 Oct – 22 Nov for the officials – and ONLY 21-22 Nov for the Minister	South Africa, a member of the ITU participates in ITU decision making forums. World radiocommunication conferences (WRC) are held every three to four years. WRC will review, and, if necessary, revise the Radio Regulations, which are international treaty governing	Director-General DDG International DDG Infrastructure Counsellor Minister CD Infrastructure Director Policy Ministry official	Minister: Business R34 192.00 + Daily allowance R2 308.00 + Accommodation R6 213.00 Officials accompanying: Flights (R297 693) + Daily Allowance (R167 776.00) + Accommodation (R340 841.00)

¹ The Minister only attends 2 days for the Signing of the Final Acts

				<p>the use of the radio-frequency spectrum and the geostationary-satellite and non-geostationary-satellite orbits.</p> <p>The Minister is expected to lead the South Africa delegation that will negotiate on new spectrum bands and the Minister will sign the Final Acts on the Radio Regulations.</p>		TOTAL COST: R849 023.00
Internet Governance Forum	Deputy Minister	Berlin, Germany	25 -29 November	<p>The Internet Governance Forum (IGF) is a multi-stakeholder space for dialogue regarding public policy issues on internet. The main issues on debate is regulations of online content related to fake news and hate speech as well as management of consumer data.</p> <p>In addition, for Africa focus is on building Africa Internet Economy, and promotion and support of internet start-ups in the continent.</p>	2x Directors Ministry official	<p>Deputy Minister: Business class R107 904.00 + Daily allowance R11 778.00 + Accommodation R42 604.00</p> <p>Officials accompanying: Flights (R259 338) + Daily Allowance (R29 448.00) + Accommodation (R95 418.00)</p> <p>TOTAL COST: R546 490.00</p>
2020						
Smart Africa during AU Summit	Minister / Deputy Minister	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	Jan / Feb	<p>South Africa is member of the Smart Africa Alliance, and also Chair of the Council of Ministers.</p> <p>Under the Smart Africa programme, South Africa is championing 4IR.</p>	Relevant officials tbc	Cannot determine cost at this stage

				Currently Smart Africa convenes 2 meetings annually (during AU Summit and May), and also meets on margins of key international forums.		
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* Excluding invitations from presidency, counterpart ministries, organisations of which the Department is affiliated to.