**THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**3579. Ms D Carter (Cope) to ask the Minister of Trade and Industry:**

Are white unemployed youth excluded from the Youth Employment Service (YES) programme; if so, on what basis?NW4156E

**Response:**

Youth Unemployment is one of the largest challenges the world faces, with the challenge particularly high in South Africa. Young workers in South Africa face very low prospects of finding employment. Many job seekers are excluded from these social networks as a result of being in a non-working household, spatially isolated, or racial and gender issues.

The Youth Employment Service (Y.E.S) initiative aims to improve the grim employment outlook for young work seekers, by offering a first chance of quality work experience for young work seekers.

The YES initiative was created for all Unemployed Youth of the country. However, for the purpose of B-BBEE recognition will only be awarded to Entities that employ Eligible Employees which are between the ages of 18 and 35 and meet the definition of “Black People” as defined in the B-BBEE Act 53 of 2003 as amended by Act 46 of 2013.

**Signed**

**………………………… ………………………….**

**Sipho Zikode Lionel October**

**DDG: SEZ/ET Director-General**

**Date:………………….. Date:…………………….**

**………………………………**

**Dr. Rob Davies, MP**

**Minister**

**Date:………………………..**