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| MEMORANDUM FROM THE PARLIAMENTARY OFFICE |

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 361**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION OF INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 26/07/2019**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 07 OF 2019**

**Mr M Chetty (DA) to ask the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology:**

What (a) number of official international trips is (i) he and (ii) his deputy planning to undertake in the 2019-22 medium term expenditure framework, (b) will the (i) destination, (ii) date, (iii) purpose and (iv) number of persons who will travel with the delegation be and (c) is the detailed breakdown of the expected cost of (i) flights, (ii) accommodation and (iii) any other expenses in each case?

**NW1333E**

**REPLY:**

**DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING:**

1. (i) The Minister is planning to undertake three international travel missions abroad for 2019/20.
2. The Deputy Minister is planning to undertake two international travel missions abroad for 2019/20.
3. The table below outlines the (i) destination, (ii) date, (iii) purpose and (iv) number of persons who will travel with the delegation.

| **MINISTER** | | | |
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| **Destination** | **Date** | **Purpose** | **Delegation** |
| Paris, France | 12 – 16 November 2019 | The 40th UNESCO General Conference determines the policies and work of the Organisation. Participation will be in the high-level meeting on the Global Convention on Higher Education. | 5 Officials |
| Nicosia, Cyprus | 2020 | The Minister has been invited to visit and explore educational cooperation opportunities. The Minister will lead a delegation of senior management from universities as part of strengthening institutional partnerships. | 4 Officials |
| Nouakchott, Mauritania | 2020 | The Mauritanian Minister of Higher Education visited South Africa in 2017 and extended an invitation for the Minister to lead a delegation of officials and academics to visit Mauritania to strengthen bilateral relations in higher education. | 4 Officials |

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| **DEPUTY MINISTER** | | | |
| **Destination** | **Date** | **Purpose** | **Delegation** |
| Kazan, Russia | 22 - 27 August 2019 | To lead the South African delegation to the World Skills 2019 Competition focusing on vocational education skills development and transformation of education systems. | 23 Officials |
| New Delhi, India | 26 - 27 August 2019 | To participate in the India-Africa Higher Education and Skills Development Summit. Specific projects for collaboration in the education sector will be discussed. | Spouse and 6 officials |

1. The table below provides a breakdown of the expected costs of (i) flights, (ii) accommodation and (iii) other expenses.

| **Destination** | **Date** | **Flight** | **Accommodation** | **Other Expenses** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Paris, France | 12 – 16 November 2019 | Business Class R25 500  Economy Class R8 100 | Suite R12 000  Standard Room R3 500 | R1 855 per diem |
| Nicosia, Cyprus | 2020 |  | Suite R6 000  Standard Room R3 000 | R1 680 per diem |
| Nouakchott, Mauritania | 2020 | Business Class R18 450  Economy Class R10 500 | Suite R2 300  Standard Room R1 400 | R1 395 per diem |
| Kazan, Russia | 22- 27 August 2019 | Business Class R28 350  Economy Class R14 300 | Suite R3 100  Standard Room R1 400 | R4 757 per diem |
| New Delhi, India | 26 - 27 August 2019 | R28 000 Business Class  R15 000 Economy Class | Suite R1 750  Standard Room R1 400 | R1 200 per diem |

**DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY:**

1. The Minister and the Deputy Minister are invited to meetings and conferences internationally by their foreign counterparts, international organizations and by the Presidency among others intermittently. The list of international engagements below reflects only the engagements that both the Minister and Deputy Minister have accepted. The international travel calendar for the outer years is subject to receiving invitations. All international missions require presidential approval prior to traveling.
2. The Minister is currently planning to undertake two international travel missions abroad for 2019 – 2020.
3. The Deputy Minister is currently planning to undertake one international travel mission abroad for 2019 – 2020.
4. The table below outlines the (i) destination, (ii) date, (iii) purpose and (iv) number of persons who will travel with the delegation as direct support to the Minister and Deputy Minister, which is tentative until approved by the Minister. For the multilateral engagements, additional Departmental officials will participate for example in senior officials’ meetings preparing the ministerial meetings, but not in a direct supporting role to the Minister and Deputy Minister. For the purpose of this reply the number of officials in the delegations assigned to a direct supporting role to the principals is indicated.

| **DESTINATION** | **DATE** | **PURPOSE** | **DELEGATION** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Minister’s Trips** | | | |
| Yokohama, Japan | 27-30 August 2019 | 7th Summit of the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD VII).  Africa-Japan Ministerial Dialogue Meeting on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).  Meeting is convened on the occasion of the Tokyo International Conference for Africa’s Development (TICAD) – South Africa has played a leadership role in in encouraging a science, technology and innovation focus as part of TICAD. The President also invited the Minister to join his delegation to TICAD. | 4 Officials |
| Dresden, Germany | 11-13 October  2019 | Carnegie Meeting of Science and Technology Ministers and Science Advisors hosted by the German Minister of Education and Research.  The Carnegie meeting is a prestigious, informal annual gathering bringing together the government science leaders of the G8 (Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russian Federation, United Kingdom and the United States); the European Commission; as well as Brazil, China, India, Mexico and South Africa. It provides an opportunity for Ministers to discuss and share experiences in an informal setting with regard to science and technology policy as part of their governments’ and the international agendas | 1 Official |
| **Deputy Minister’s Trips** | | | |
| Campinas, Brazil | 19 - 20 September 2019 | BRICS Science, Technology and Innovation Ministerial Meeting – the meeting is the highest inter-governmental BRICS Forum dedicated to decide on and review BRICS science, technology and innovation partnership initiatives. | 2 Officials |

1. The table below shows the detailed breakdown of the expected cost of (i) flights, (ii) accommodation and (iii) any other expenses in each case?

| **DESTINATION** | **DATE** | **FLIGHT** | **ACCOMMODATION** | **OTHER EXPENSES** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Minister’s Trips:** | | | | |
| Yokohama, Japan | 27-30 August 2019 | Business Class R66 000  Economy Class R25 000 | Suite R8400  Standard Room R3500 | R4370 per diem |
| Dresden, Germany | 11-13 October 2019 | Business Class R80 000  Economy Class R21 000 | Suite R11 000  Standard Room R3 000 | R5800 per diem |
| **Deputy Minister’s Trips** | | | | |
| Campinas, Brazil | 19 - 20 September 2019 | Business Class R80 000  Economy Class R25 000 | Suite R3500  Standard Room R3500 | R4164 per diem |