



**forestry, fisheries
& the environment**

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Ref: O2/1/5/2

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 4504 {NW5632E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 50 of 2022

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Ms A M M Weber (DA) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment:

(1) Whether, after almost six years, her department has any plans to ensure that all 90 students who received the bursary to study towards the Environmental Science Technician NQF Level 6 course will have the opportunity to complete their studies; if not, why not; if so, (a) what is the plan and (b) is there an adequate budget.

(2) What is the envisaged date that her department will ensure that the specified students will complete the specified course?

4504. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:

(1) (a)(b)

The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFEE) has a plan to assist the students to continue with the learning programme, as follows:

- i) Liaising with the 32 students who have indicated their willingness and availability to continue with their studies;
- ii) Exploring potential funding opportunities through the Local Government SETA grant funding for the students to continue with this learning programme in the next financial year;

- iii) Initiating an open tender process in search of accredited institutions/service providers to offer the programme; and
- iv) Appointing an accredited service provider/institution.

This exercise will be done with a view to creating an opportunity for students who may still be interested in continuing with the learning programme, while at the same time ensuring compliance with all applicable procurement prescripts and processes.

- (2) It is difficult to indicate the exact date when the students are likely to have completed the programme as it is not offered as a course, but rather as part of a qualification with compulsory and elective modules that span on an average period of two to three years. However, the DFFE is prepared to assist students who are still committed to completing the programme, as indicated in (1) above.



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MS B D CREECY, MP
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

DATE: 4/12/2022