**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 499**

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**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 09/2017**

**499. Ms S V Kalyan (DA) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

(a) How many official international trips did the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Umalusi undertake (i) in each of the past seven financial years and (ii) since 1 April 2016 to date and (b) what was the (i) destination, (ii) purpose, (iii) cost of flights, (iv) cost of accommodation, (v) names of hotels in which the CEO stayed at and (vi) subsistence costs in each case? NW556E

**RESPONSE:**

International trips include any travel outside of South African borders. The international trips undertaken by the CEO of Umalusi are linked to Umalusi’s membership of the following three organisations:

* Southern Africa Association for Educational Assessment (SAAEA) – in which the CEO serves as an Executive Committee member.
* Association for Educational Assessment in Africa (AEAA).
* International Association for Educational Assessment (IAEA).

The number of international trips by the Chief Executive Officer of Umalusi for the past seven financial years are as follows:

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|  | **09/10** | **10/11** | **11/12** | **12/13** | **13/14** | **14/15** | **15/16** |
| Number of official international trips | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 3 |

For the current financial year (2016/2017), the following international trips were undertaken:

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| 1. **16 – 20 May 2016 – SAAEA**
 | **Southern Africa Association for Educational Assessment** |
| (i) destination | Lusaka, Zambia |
| (ii) purpose | Attending the SAAEA Conference representing Umalusi. |
| (iii) cost of flights | R 7,563 |
| (iv) cost of accommodation | R 12 190 |
| (v) names of hotels in which the CEO stayed at  | Taj Pamodzi Hotel |
| (vi) subsistence costs in each case | R4 614 |

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| 1. **25 – 29 July2016 – AEAA**
 | **Association for Educational Assessment in Africa** |
| (i) destination | Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe |
| (ii) purpose | Attending the AEAA Conference representing Umalusi. |
| (iii) cost of flights | R 8,039 |
| (iv) cost of accommodation | R14,218 |
| (v) names of hotels in which the CEO stayed at  | Elephant Hills Resort |
| (vi) subsistence costs in each case | R 3 066 |

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| 1. **10 – 23 September 2016 – Benchmark Trip**
 | **Netherlands and UK.** |
| (i) destination | Netherlands and UK. |
| (ii) purpose | Benchmarking exercise with Cito, Netherlands; Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual), England; Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted), England; Cambridge International Examinations (CIE), England & Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) |
| (iii) cost of flights | R 77,288 |
| (iv) cost of accommodation | R 89 810 |
| (v) names of hotels in which the CEO stayed at  | Global Accommodation CC |
| (vi) subsistence costs in each case | R30 351 |

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| 1. **10 – 13 March 2017 – SAAEA EXCO**
 | **Southern Africa Association for Educational Assessment** |
| (i) destination | Uganda |
| (ii) purpose | Executive Committee meeting of SAAEA |
| (iii) cost of flights | R 77,288 |
| (iv) cost of accommodation | Paid by SAAEA |
| (v) names of hotels in which the CEO stayed at  | Paid by SAAEA |
| (vi) subsistence costs in each case | R 3 066 |