

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**“594. Mr R W T Chance (DA) to ask the Minister of Small Business Development:**

**(1) (a) What was the cost of her trip to the China Import Expo in Shanghai in November 2018 in terms of accommodation, flights and allowances, (b) who accompanied her to the specified expo and what costs did her department incur in this regard, (c) what are the names, products and business done by the small to medium enterprises (SMEs) which her department paid to exhibit at the expo and (d) what number of these SMEs had accompanied her or her department on previous expos to China;**

**(2) (a) what was the purpose of her visit to the United Kingdom in November 2018, (b) what are the names of the government and business representatives with whom she met, (c) what was the outcome of the specified meetings, (d) who accompanied her and (e) what was the total cost of the visit in terms of accommodation, flights and allowances;**

**(3) what progress has her department and the Small Enterprise Finance Agency made in implementing the recommendations of the report entitled Business *Rescue, Turnaround and Retention* for *SMME&Cs*, which was produced by the University of Pretoria, dated 15 December 2017?”**

 **NW4342E**

**REPLY:**

(1)(a) The Minister did not travel to China in November 2018 the Deputy Minister of Small Business Development travelled. Costs relating to the China Import Expo, Shanghai of November 2018

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| **Item** | **Amount** |
| Accommodation | R 173,658.00 (5 nights for 4 People) |
| Flights  | R 198,839.40 ( 3 Business Class & 2 Economy) |
| Ground Transport | R 154,052.26 ( Executive Shuttle + Car) |
| Allowances | R 94 333. 36. |
| **Total** | **R 620 883.02** |

(1)(b) People that accompanied the Minister and cost incurred by the Department:

 The Deputy Minister was accompanied by his spouse, the Head of Office of the Deputy Minister; the Media Liaison Officer; and the Chief Director: International Relations and Trade Promotion.

The delegation also included 15 Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs) at a cost of **R 46 000.00 per person** with a total of **R690 000.00.** This included; return flights, 4-star accommodation, ground transport, transfer by bus to Yiwu and accommodation in Yiwu and airport transfers.

(1)(c) Details of SMEs that participated at the China Import Expo:

All the enterprises participated in matchmaking activities with Chinese Businesses as well as other participants in the Expo. Additional business to business meetings were organized by the coordinator which focused on products sold by the SME’s.

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| **Name of company** | **Product and business conducted by SME** |
| **Tsheola Dinare Tours and Transport** **(Gauteng Province)** | The enterprise was represented by its Director. Tsheola Dinare Tours and Transport is a tour operator business that offers customised travel solutions in terms of tourism services, chauffeuring and shuttle services. Tsheola Dinare Tours and Transport (GP) operates everywhere in South Africa with branches in Durban, Cape Town and Johannesburg.  |
| **IKIM solutions cc** **(Eastern Cape Province)** | The enterprise was represented by its Director. IKIM solutions is a manufacturer of household cleaning chemicals, a marketer and distributor of water purification and waste water treatment chemicals. IKIM solutions links up with clients and suppliers involved in detergency manufacturing value chain to market products and initiate relationships with other companies. |
| **X Sparks** **(Gauteng Province)** | The enterprise was represented by its Director. This enterprise builds super-efficient mobile and web applications as well as software tools designed with the user in mind. Their solutions are designed to distinguish companies from their competition. X Sparks solutions are delivered via two vehicles: X spark atx (advanced technology extended) for software development and X spark design for all innovative digital design solutions.  |
| **Maneli Pets** **(Gauteng Province)** | The company was represented by its Director. Maneli Pets is a specialist manufacturer of premium pet food and pet treats for the local and export market. Maneli Pets is the first South African pet company to be certified for exports to the US, UK, EU and Asia. Founded in 2016, the company prides itself on its unique proteins, minimalist processing, consumer transparency and sustainable business practices. |
| **Kgarose kgaros Pty Ltd (Limpopo Province)** | The company was represented by its Director. Kgarose kgaros Pty Ltd is a vibrant and innovative, black owned enterprise that produces sweet potato yogurt and sweat potato drinking yoghurt. The firm deploys the energy and the skills of the youthful workers to implement cutting edge production techniques to produce one of the best yogurts in the market. |
| **Amphiguard brickyard** **(Limpopo Province)** | Amphiguard brickyard was represented by its Director. This enterprise specialises in the manufacture of cement bricks namely: maxi, stock, hollow, beveled pavers, interlocking pavers and v-shaped pavers. Amphiguard brickyard mainly supply cement bricks and pavers to top franchise brands, community contractors, and government contractors. |
| **Solve Direct Electronics.** [**SDE]** **(Gauteng Province)** | The company was represented by its Director. Solve Direct Electronics. (SDE). SDE envisions a future where all participants are knowledgeable in their electronic assembly requirements. The company mainly trains individuals in a high technology and niche industry called the Aerospace Industry. Quality and compliance training are presented on class 3 level products meaning that lives depend on what we do. The company also produces printed circuit board assembly to leading electronic companies. |
| **Barui-Driehoek Co-operative farm** **(North West Province)** | The enterprise was represented by a Director. Barui-Driehoek Co-operative farm is a registered cooperative with 5 members. The 1855ha farm belongs to the government, and was allocated to Barui-Driehoek Co-operative Ltd in 2011 on a renewable 30 years lease basis by the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform (DRDLR). The farm is currently divided into 15 camps. 300 cattle production on veld: in the short term, the main focus of the cattle enterprise is bonsmara cattle.  |
| **Mankoko Consulting JV (Gauteng Province)** | The company was represented by its Director. Mankoko Consulting JV is a company that manufactures leather products, hand bags, shoes, hand gloves and belts. There is a section that manufactures cleaning chemicals for households and industries. The company is now expanding, venturing into introducing the manufacturing of leather safety shoes safety gloves, and safety jackets. |
| **Chemsol, SA Adhesives (Pty) Ltd****(Kwazulu Natal Province)** | Chemsol, SA Adhesives (Pty) Ltd was represented by its Director. The company specialises in Water Based Adhesives for the Paper and Packaging Industry and Wood Industry. The product brand CHEMSOL specialises in the Solvent based Adhesive for the Footwear, Furniture and Bedding Industry.  |
| **Sun Goddess****(Gauteng Province)** | The enterprise was represented by its Director. Sun Goddess is a pioneering enterprise with a truly revolutionary fashion brand. Their brand has played the role of fashion-ambassador for South Africa, participating in shows from as far west as Washington as far north as Stockholm, and as far east as Singapore. The Sun Goddess team combine a fiercely individualistic style with a prodigious work ethic and an infectious sense of fun, while delivering the best of Afro-couture. |
| **Gridbow Engineers & Technical Services** **(Gauteng Province)** | The company was represented by its Director. Gridbow Engineers & Technical Services, an Award Winning Electrical Infrastructure, Civil Engineering, Consulting, Maintenance and General Services Contracting Company, has since its formation, been at the forefront of providing Quality Services to all its esteemed clients which include Eskom, Anglo American, Randwater and ABB. Gridbow currently has a footprint in South Africa, Zambia, Australia, Zimbabwe, Rwanda and Swaziland. |
| **WAM Technology** **(Western Cape)** | The enterrpise was represented by its Director. WAM Technology is a provider of software solutions and services for various sectors (including health, water, agriculture, manufacturing, food processing, tourism, education, property, retail, etc.). WaM Technology provide custom software including web development services, using a variety of the latest technologies such as .Net, C#, SQL Server, JavaScript, HTML, XAML, CSS, ASP, WCF, WPF, etc. It also offer hosting, maintenance, training and support services to these solutions for many satisfied clients – big and small. |
| **Elim Spa Products** **(Western Cape)** | Elim Spa Products was represented by Its Director. The company offers unique products, in that it provides a Medi-Pedi which is an idea of saving money and time for the clients who are on the go and need a beauty treatment in a hurry. Medi-Heel also is unique in the ingredients used, as it allows the PH balance of the skin to be brought back to normal after a treatment. With the formulation of the new products, care is once again taken in the selection of ingredients, to ensure only the best possible results. We have also introduced our new 2 ranges, MediHand and Body Science. |
| **Ntlantsana Accountants and Auditors (Pty) Ltd****(Eastern Cape)** | The firm was represented by its Director. The company is an accounting and auditing firm established in 2012, which has grown year on year and currently has offices in Port Elizabeth, Queenstown, Mthatha and in Philippi in the Western Cape. Ntlantsana Accountants and Auditors (Pty) Ltd offers diverse accounting and auditing services such as company secretariat, accounting, taxation, internal auditing, forensic investigations, training and facilitation, mentorship, and also Broad Based Black Economic Empowerment (BB-BEE) services to its clients. A unique company offering a diverse range of accounting and business services. |

(1)(d) The delegation of SME’s that accompanied Deputy Minister was new companies supported by the Small Business Export Development Scheme (SBEDS) and has not been supported to exhibit or form part of a delegation to China previously.

(2)(a) Minister Lindiwe Zulu was invited to attend the Women MPs of the World Conference that took place at the House of Commons, Westminster, United Kingdom. The Minister shared South Africa’s experience in how South Africa has integrated women into Parliament and other structures of leadership throughout the country. Minister Zulu also participated in a session, entitled “Policy focus: what difference are women MPs making?” This session looked at how women MPs can tackle gender inequality in four key areas:

 \*Promoting women’s economic empowerment

 \*Ending violence against women and girls

 \*Championing access to voluntary family planning and

 \*Breaking the barriers to girl’s education.

(2)(b) Minister of Africa from the Foreign and Commonwealth office for Africa, Minister for SMME Development and Entrepreneurship, Lord Anthony St. John, CEO of Afrika Tikkun, representatives from the WeWork incubation Centre, and representatives from the Flatron School, which was established as a supplement to the to the Incubator Training Programmes.

 (2)(c) The meeting with the Minister of Africa from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office for Africa and the Minister for SMME Development and Entrepreneurship discussed the deepening of relations between South Africa and the United Kingdom and proposed partnership with the Department of Small Business Development in the incubation space. The meeting with the CEO of Afrika Tikkun, discussed how Afrika Tikkun aims to give young people opportunities through innovative and enterprising ways. In the visit with We Work Incubation Centre, it highlighted their different approached to incubation and accelerators, WeWork was started in the United States and made strides in facilitating access to markets for small businesses and affordable workspaces for SMMEs. It was agreed that the Department of Small Business Development and the Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA) engage with them on their model of the accelerators.

(2)(d) The Director for Special Projects in the Ministry of Small Business Development accompanied the Minister.

(2)(e) Costs relating to the visit to the United Kingdom in November 2018

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| **Item** | **Amount** |
| Accommodation | R18 000.00 |
| Flights  | R19 332.68 |
| Allowances | R6 882.84 |
| **Total** | **R44 215.52**  |

(3) A draft action plan has been developed and presented to EXCO. Some additional stakeholder consultations are required to refine the action plan before it can be presented at the Economic Sector, Employment and Infrastructure Development Cluster for consideration.