MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (NA) INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NUMBER 06 OF 2022

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 723

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 24 MARCH 2022

REPLY RECOMMENDED BY MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS: MP

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Inkosi R N Cebekhulu (IFP) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:

- 1. What are the details of the Government's position with regard to the Ukrainian call for foreigners to join its fight against the Russian Federation by joining the International Legion of Territorial Defence of Ukraine?
- 2. Whether the Government will support South African citizens wishing to apply for such international military service; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

REPLY:

- 1. The DOD (SANDF) is instructed by the South African Constitution; and upholds all National and International Laws as prescribed by Parliament.
- 2. The Prohibition of Mercenaries Activities and Regulation of Certain Activities in Country of Armed Conflict Act, 2006 (Mercenaries Act of 2006), provides in S2(1)(a), that "no person may within the country or elsewhere participate as for private gain in an armed conflict; directly or indirectly participate in any manner the initiation, causing or furthering of an armed conflict."
- S2(2) of the Mercenaries Act further states that any person who contravenes subsection
 is guilty of an offence. The DOD's; and SANDF's; position remains the same as that of the Republic, as alluded to in this legislation.

OR Modise

MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS: MP

Date: 10.05.2022