****

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NUMBER 735**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION: 10 MARCH 2023**

**QUESTION:**

**735. Ms M D Hlengwa (IFP) to ask** **the Minister in the Presidency for Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities:**

With reference to the aspired mechanisms that would deal with the challenges that vulnerable groups such as persons living with disabilities are facing across the Republic, which her Office was set to implement in partnership with the Department of Basic Education and the Department of Water and Sanitation and hold public servants accountable at the provincial level, what progress has her Office made in implementing the specified initiative across all provinces? **NW827E**

**REPLY:**

The Department of Basic Education in partnership with Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities (DWYPD) held an inclusive education summit to assess progress on the implementation of inclusive education. Gaps, challenges, immediate to long-term interventions were identified and are under implementation by Department of Basic Education.

The DWYPD is in continuous collaborations with the National and Provincial Departments of Basic Education and the Department of Water and Sanitation. We continue to provide technical expertise and advice to offices of the Premier and Provincial Departments to ensure that programmed are disability inclusive and responsive. The DWYPD through the District Development Model (DDM) participates in advocating and monitoring in the areas of education and provision of water and sanitation. The DWYPD provides advice and guidance to provincial departments during their strategic planning and other project initiatives. The department also participated in the KwaZulu Natal Department of Education strategic planning workshop in February 2023 to provide guidance and technical expertise through a disability inclusive lens.