

MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER No.9

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN

QUESTION NO: 766

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 11 MARCH 2022

**REPLY RECOMMENDED BY:
MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS: MP**

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Mr W.T.I. Mafanya (EFF) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:

In light of aging and outdated military hardware which cannot withstand the capacity of the other states that have improved new technologies, what are the (a) immediate, (b) short term and (c) long term objectives of her department to bring back the desired standards to have a competitive force that will execute its constitutional mandate?

REPLY:

1. The SANDF recognises that the country's fiscal position hardly allows the implementation of the Defence Review 2015 at its level of ambition. The said implementation would ensure beyond doubt that the SANDF has the gravitas it needs to be unchallenged in the African battlespace. A systematic build up given the aforementioned situation may be on course when development funding (Special Defence Account) is resumed. This would allow the meaningful Research & Development (R&D) in partnership with Local Defence Industry and others. The SCAMP emanating from SDA would at least allow continued basic maintenance and funding of the upgrade. The South African Military Strategy has been completed in this month of March 2022 with the approval of the means part of the Military Strategy, that is Force Design and Force Structure.

2. Our Military Policy Strategy and Planning practitioners are hard at work developing the next logical deliverable, the SANDF Force Development Plan. The latter will take the force from the current situation in regards of its capabilities to the short, medium, long and extended long term. Capability development will be prioritised within the current baseline until the resource situation improves. At the centre of the prioritisation process is the efficiency of the current systems through maintenance and repair of the SANDF Prime Mission Equipment.



Ms T.R. MODISE: MP
MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS