



agriculture, forestry & fisheries

Department:
Agriculture, forestry & fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Written Response: Matters Arising from the Portfolio Committee of 09 October 2012

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Date:

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The Former Director General: Mr Langa Zita

The former Director-General was placed on precautionary suspension with effect from 25 June 2012 as a result of administrative issues. Following the suspension, the matter was referred to the Ministry for Public Service and Administration (MPSA) for comment and advice. It is worth noting that the management of career incidents of heads of departments at the national sphere of Government vests with the President, who has delegated some of his responsibilities in this respect to the MPSA. The advice of the DPSA was that this is a matter that hinges on a total breakdown of the working relationship between the Executive Authority and the then Director-General and that in that case the way forward on the matter would be the re-determination of contract route.

The re-determination of contract of a head of department means an early termination of the fixed-term employment contract by mutual consent between the parties. The Minister for Public Service and Administration, after consultation with the Presidency approved the re-determination of the contract of the former Director-General with effect from 17 August 2012, meaning that his last day of service was 16 August 2012.

It is important to note that the settlement amount for the remainder of the contract term is not a matter for negotiation between the employer and the relevant head of department but that the settlement formula is prescribed by the DPSA. In respect of the then Director-General the following was the settlement formula:

- 100% gross monthly remuneration for the first three months
- 80% gross monthly remuneration for the following nine months
- 60% gross monthly remuneration the following twelve months
- 30% for the remainder of the contract

Dr Mohlahlane

R50 million against the name of the former Land Bank CEO, Dr Phil Mohlahlane

The department received a letter from *PE Mashola & Co. Inc* dated 30 April 2012. The contents of the letter was demanding payment of the above-mentioned amount. The company was accusing the Limpopo Department of Agriculture and the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries as a an entity "colluding" with the provincial department'

When DAFF received the letter it raised a contingent liability. A contingent liability is a liability that its certainty is not assured. In accordance with accepted accounting practice an issue like this would then be disclosed in the annual financial statements as a note. The Department has not heard from the law firm since.

Tractors in the Free State during the Oversight visit by the Portfolio Committee

The first tractor that 'Disappeared' was supposed to be delivered to a project but was signed for by an official and it did not go to the designated project. We have contacted the province in this regard for a report on what happened to it.

The second tractor that was found to have been standing for three years on a 'farm' needed repairs due to lack of funds at the time and we have also requested the province for a report in this regard. This tractor was purchased with the provincial funding.

International Travel

Foreign travels in the year under review

a.	T & S Foreign Accommodation	3 197 995.11
b.	T &S Foreign Daily Allowance	471 007.76
c.	T & S Foreign Food & Bev (Sev)	1 175 926.80
d.	T &S Foreign Incidental Cost	89 151.39
e.	T &S Foreign Without OP, Car Rental	805.14
f.	T &S Foreign With OP Air Transport	11 163 582.91
g.	T &S Foreign With OP Railway Trans	14 195.82
h.	T &S Foreign With OP Road Transport	920 878.47
		Total = 17 041 866.40

Other operating expenses

• O/P Laundry	10 053.35
• O/P Car Valet & Delivery Services	19 968.00
• O/P Courier & Delivery Services	1 044 831.71
• O/P Drivers Licences & Permits	23 201.00
• O/P NonLife Insurance Premium – Try 12, 1, 2	2 242 998.52
• O/P Printing & Publications Service	3 227 607.83
• O/P Roadworthy Tests	250.00
• O/P School Boarding/Tuition Cost	441 770.59
• O/P Storage of Files	138 322.07
• O/P Storage of Assets Goods	98 858.35
• O/P TKG Over Contractual Obligation	381 345.45
• O/P Freight Services TRSPRT Goods	230 450.99
Total = 7 859 667.92	

Draft Mechanisation Policy

A copy of the Draft Policy is attached for discussion,

Service Level Agreement with ARC

A copy of the SLA is attached for discussion,

Smallholder producers data 2011/2012

A copy of the SLA is attached for discussion,