



**MINISTRY: PUBLIC SERVICE AND ADMINISTRATION
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO.: 504

Mr J J Mc Gluwa (DA) to ask the Minister of Public Service and Administration:

- (1) Whether he knows how many government employees of the former Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei (TBVC) states missed the June 2002 deadline for claiming pension payouts in terms of Resolution 7 of 1998 and Resolution 12 of 2002 of the Public Service Coordination Bargaining Council; if so,
- (2) what (a) steps and (b) any other appropriate measures has he taken to re-open the deadline for applications; if not, what kind of action has he found to be appropriate in the cause of assisting former employees of the former TBVC states who missed the June 2002 deadline;
- (3) with regard to the money that is reserved for payment of former employees of the former TBVC states, what is the total amount of money which still lies unclaimed (a) as part of the Government Employees Pension Fund and/or (b) any other fund or pool of money reserved for this purpose?

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REPLY

- (1) According to Resolution 3/12, clause 3.5 the closing date for the pension redress programme was the 31 March 2012. It would be difficult to say with certainty how many former employees of the TBVC State missed the deadline as each employee

(beneficiaries in the case of deceased members) was expected to submit the application form in order to qualify. Moreover, people move around and could have relocated to non-TBVC States. Workshops were conducted in all Provinces and the Offices of the Premiers in all 9 Provinces were used to further market the pension redress programme. Pamphlets, radio and print media was also used to sensitise members of the pension redress programme.

- (2) Submissions of the applications were first accepted in February 2010 and the closing date was the 31 March 2012. There was a period of grace to accept the applications not later than the 31 July 2012; the second deadline was only for submission of the applications by Provincial task teams to the Public Service Coordinating Bargaining Council (PSCBC) and not directly from individuals. Application forms were collected from the Departments to the Provincial task teams and then to the PSCBC. It must be noted that the past discriminatory pension practices did not only affect members from the TBVC States but everyone who was discriminated according to race, gender and employment status.
- (3) Resolution 7/98 provided that funding of the pension redress programme should come from 1% reduction in the funding level of the GEPF. In 2001, R6 billion was ring-fenced to address this purpose. General Assistants and the Ciskei Strikers had already benefitted. The balance in the Reserve Account as at December 2014 is R6.7 billion and it is for all the qualifying members who have not yet been compensated and not only TBVC States members. There was no other fund or pool of money reserved for this purpose.