



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

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR ORAL REPLY

QUESTION NO.: 18.

Mr A P van der Westhuizen (DA) to ask the Minister of Public Service and Administration: [Written Question No 758]

- (1) Whether the report on financial misconduct in the public service in the 2014-15 financial year has been completed; if not, why not; if so, when (a) will it be made public and (b) is the completed report expected;
- (2) with reference to his reply to question 3977 on 3 December 2015, (a) why no measure of the financial extent of corruption exists, as defined in the Prevention and Combatting of Corrupt Activities Act, Act 12 of 2004 and (b) how (i) are trends in corruption or (ii) is the success or otherwise of corruption-fighting initiatives determined if no such measurement exists;
- (3) whether the anti-corruption teams or groups in which his department participates have any focus on the prevention of corruption that is not financial in nature; if not, why not; if so, (a) on which aspects of the prevention of corruption do the teams or groups focus and (b) what are the details of the strategies employed to combat such corruption in each case?

NO876E

REPLY

- (1) Yes. The report on financial misconduct in the public service for 2014-15 financial year has been completed. (a)(b) It will be tabled in parliament before the end of this financial year, where-after it will be made public.

- (2) (a) Before a measure can be developed for the financial extent of corruption, agreement must exist on what financial losses can be contributed to "corruption" and should therefore be counted as such (E.g. under which circumstances should fruitless and wasteful expenditure be seen as corruption and when is it due to mismanagement). This agreement lacks due to the absence of a central anti-corruption body. The Anti-Corruption Task Team (ACTT) is an interdepartmental task team, thereby lacking the powers of a government department to set standards and rules.
- (b) (i) (ii) One of the functions of the ACTT - as elaborated on in the response to Question 3977 — is to identify corruption trends within the departments represented in the task team. The ACTT, Chaired by the Directorate for Priority Crime Investigation, sets yearly corruption fighting targets that the departments need to report on during regular principal meetings. At these meetings, the respective principals monitor implementation and achieving the set targets are regarded as an indication of the success of the ACTT in fighting corruption. Although financial measuring is not the focus, financial losses are reported on and statistics to this effect are maintained. However, these statistics are only related to the departments represented and not the Public Administration as a whole.
- (3) The anti-corruption teams or groups, notably the ACTT, in which my department participates have a focus on the prevention of corruption that is not financial in nature. The Anti-Corruption Inter-Ministerial Committee (ACIMC) and National Anti-Corruption Forum (NACF), as outlined in the response to Question 3977, also have a focus on the prevention of corruption that is not financial in nature, with the ACIMC acting as oversight and the decision-making body.

As indicated in my response to Question 3977; (a) under the ACTT, the DPSA is responsible for programme 3, and as such is responsible to build a transparent, accountable, and ethical public service.

(b) To achieve this, the programme aims to build the capacity of ethics officers through training interventions (Five programmes were developed by the National School of Government with inputs provided by the DPSA and Office of the Public Service Commission and 200 employees were trained on the investigation of corruption cases), establishing of forums (such as the National Ethics Officer Forum) and legislating ethics infrastructure (by adopting such in the Public Service Regulations, 2016 and integrating the elements contained in the Public Service Integrity Management framework and Minimum Anti-Corruption Requirements addressing ethics management and ethics infrastructures). Another focus is to strengthen discipline management through the pooling of resources such as presiding officers and to address training issues of the different role-players involved

in discipline management. An Anti-Corruption Strategy was also developed for local government and the groundwork laid for developing a National Anti-Corruption Strategy. PERSAL amendments were made to address the issue of recording other remunerative work performed by employees outside their department of employment and a functionality was created on the DPSA website where employees of government can be verified so as to assist when determining which employees are conducting business with an organ of the state. The DPSA is also responsible to coordinate responses to international anti-corruption measures, and in that regard submitted country reports to the OECD, UNCAC and G20.