



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Ref: 02/1/5/2

MINISTER

QUESTION NO. 1158 FOR WRITTEN REPLY: NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

A draft reply to Mr N J van den Berg (DA) to the above-mentioned question is enclosed for your consideration.

Ms Nosipho Ngcaba
DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE:

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

MRS B E E MOLEWA, MP
MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DATE:

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 1158

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 16 of 2013 NW1393E

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 17 May 2013

Mr N J van den Berg (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

(a) What total amount have (i) her departments and (ii) each specified entity reporting to her spent on conferences in the (aa) 2009-10, (bb) 2010-11, (cc) 2011-12 and (dd) 2012-13 financial years and (b) what (i) amount was spent on, and (ii) is the breakdown of the expenditure for, each specified conference?

Mr N J van den Berg (DA)

SECRETARY TO PARLIAMENT

HANSARD

PAPERS OFFICE

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1158.THE MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS ANSWERS:

It is not practical to provide accurate responses to question no. 1158. The department will need to appoint auditors to fully retrieve and analyse the figures for periods far back as four financial years. Informed by the fact that it takes two months for External Auditors to audit a sample for one financial year with associated costs to be incurred.

The department and its Public Entities capacity is geared towards 2012/13 audit preparations which start from 1st June until 31st July 2013. Simultaneously the same personnel is required to deliver the services as approved in annual plan of operation.

A further complication in undertaking the task is that itemisation framework in BAS-Chart of Accounts refers to a broad category on venues and facilities which includes conferences, meetings, accommodation, etc which makes the breakdown impossible without a full audit assessment of source documents.



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ANNEXURE A

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY FOR CONFERENCES FROM 2009-2013

FINANCIAL YEARS	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	
TOTALS	16,593,128.75	14,901,827.03	21,507,410.28	30,219,350.73	83,221,716.79

ANNEXURE B

(aa) (i) & (ii)

FINANCIAL YEAR 2009-10	
DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Strategic plan session	174 910
Business plan session	98 612
DMISA	14 800
AASA	25 993
SA Society of Atmospheric Sciences Conference	5 700
Training Conference	11 979
TOTAL	331 994

(bb) (i) & (ii)

FINANCIAL YEAR 2010-11	
DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Strategic planning session	273 465
Assessment of EXCO members	7 068
SASAS	9 900
NACA	5 643
DMISA	43 000
AASA	43 434
Cape media corporation	23 940
Aviation safety and security	10 031
TOPCO media awards	28 500
TOTAL	444 981

(cc) (i) & (ii)

FINANCIAL YEAR 2011-12	
DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Change management and performance management workshop	9 000
27th annual SASAS conference	27 360
Annual community development and stakeholder engagement summit	8 778
Corporate strategic plan & business plan	189 751
PRISA	6 895
NACA	10 260
DMISA	128 000
TOTAL	380 044

(dd) (i) & (ii)

FINANCIAL YEAR 2012-13	
DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
SASAS registration fees	41 700
DMISA	99 580
Strategic and business plan sessions	219 553
SAWS operations scenario planning	239 145
CSI matter conference	6 783
Green building council convention	22 287
Research team building	60 192
Forecasting team building	51 922
Finance team building	145 412
Operations impact study: Hydrogen	14 138
Weather research: NCAR	7 554
TOTAL	908 265

SANPARKS**Board Strategic sessions****Annexure D**

	2012/13	2011/12	2010/11	2009/10
Accommodation	35,075.00	32,548.26	19,614.00	No session
Flights	-	82,335.00	69,025.00	
Meals	20,993.00	28,062.50	23,282.91	
Transport	11,135.44	6,020.50	4,194.45	
Total	67,203.44	148,966.26	116,116.36	
Venue	Golden Gate	Skukuza	Skukuza	

Meetings are held in National Parks hence the accommodation cost is the opportunity cost is the opportunity cost and not a physical expense.