



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORAL REPLY

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION 334

DATE OF ORAL REPLY: 3 December 2019

Mr D W Macpherson (DA) to ask the Minister of Trade and Industry:

What measures he has put in place to protect jobs in the sugar industry? NO3023E

Response

Government is engaged in discussions with the sugar industry to develop a Master Plan aimed at addressing the challenges in the industry and to set the foundation for a long-term strategy. The strategy aims to build diversified and sustainable and competitive sugar-cane based value-chains that reduce dependence on sugar and develop alternative downstream products.

The discussions include sugar farmers (small-scale and large commercial), millers, industrial users (beverage and food), retailers, organized labour and different government entities.

The process is co-chaired with Minister Thoko Didiza.

Progress has been made with identifying a common strategic vision and a number of action steps have been identified. These are now the subject of refinement to take account of concerns of different constituencies; and of mandating by constituencies. It is envisaged this process will be completed within this financial year.

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