



the dtic

Department:
Trade, Industry and Competition
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO. 594

Ms Y N Yako (EFF) to ask the Minister of Trade and Industry:

What progress has his department made with putting measures in place to ensure the stability of the SA Bureau of Standards (SABS), especially in light of the coronavirus and the vital role that the SABS plays in verifying the standard of goods in the Republic? NW785E

REPLY

The impact of Covid-19 on economic activity has affected the work of SABS, as a decline in demand by private sector companies during the current period will impact on SABS revenue.

I am advised that the SABS leadership is developing an action plan for implementation, taking into account both the challenges faced prior to the lockdown and the subsequent developments. This will need to receive priority attention from the Department to ensure that the challenges are addressed.

The SABS is providing essential services industries, where appropriate, with certification and testing services. The operational laboratories are:

1. Food Micro [PTA and CPT];
2. Pharmaceutical Chemistry;
3. Fiber & Polymers [Standby];
4. Industrial Chemistry [Standby];
5. Condom lab; and
6. Cement Lab.

-END-