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Department:  
Trade, Industry and Competition  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## **THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

### **QUESTION FOR ORAL REPLY**

#### **QUESTION NO 584**

**DATE OF ORAL REPLY: 25 OCTOBER 2023**

#### **MP F J Mulder (FF Plus) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:**

Considering the position of the Republic on the Russian invasion of Ukraine and its stated support of Palestine against Israel, what contingency steps has his department taken since the unfortunate recent turn of events in the Middle East, to ensure confidence and to eradicate any resistance of the United States of America (USA) to the early extension of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) after 2025, which will be requested by the Government during the 2023 AGOA Forum to be hosted by the Republic from 2 to 4 November 2023 in Johannesburg? NO4399E

#### **REPLY:**

South Africa is working constructively with the US Administration and with other sub-Saharan African countries to renew the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) prior to its expiry in 2025. The mutual benefit of the economic relationship, as well as the clear benefits for job creation is emphasised during the engagement. A more detailed report on the various steps taken and planned, was tabled during a meeting of the Joint Select and Portfolio Committee on 26 September 2023. A copy of the Report was provided to the Honourable Member.

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