

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO. 1525

Mr M J Cuthbert (DA) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

On what date is it envisaged that the Republic will introduce pre-grant patent opposition procedures to avoid broad patent claims?

NW1768E

REPLY:

A draft Patent Bill has been prepared by the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition, which deals with various aspects of patent law reform. The Department will not at this stage comment on specific aspects of patent law until the public release of the draft legislation, which is intended to be done shortly, following a Cabinet process.

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