



the dtic

Department:
Trade, Industry and Competition
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO. 244

Restoring industry confidence

Mr N H Pienaar (Limpopo: DA) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

What measures are in place to ensure that the SA Bureau of Standards (a) restores industry confidence in its laboratory services and (b) prevents a recurrence of the governance and operational failures that led to the collapse of laboratory capacity?
CW315E

REPLY:

I have been advised by the SA Bureau of Standards (SABS) as follows.

- (a) The current interventions include contracting a panel of equipment repairs, maintenance and calibration service providers. The replacement of aged equipment within the allocated budget, is also being implemented.

To restore industry confidence in the SABS laboratory—previously affected by equipment breakdowns and delays in issuing test reports—SABS has contracted a panel of service providers for equipment repairs, maintenance and calibration. SABS is further replacing aged equipment within the allocated budget.

These measures are expected to address the concerns previously experienced by stakeholders.



the dtic

Department:
Trade, Industry and Competition
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

- (b) The SABS has developed a laboratory recapitalisation strategy which is providing the funding framework exploring the following options, - Strategic Infrastructure & Capability Partnership (SICP); Build Operate and Transfer (BOT); Joint Venture (JV/SPV) and Equipment Financing + Managed Services.

Moreover, once implemented, this strategy will safeguard and sustain the long-term stability of SABS.

-END-