



**the dtic**

Department:  
Trade, Industry and Competition  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## **THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

### **QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

#### **QUESTION NO. 1213**

**Mr R W T Chance (DA) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:**

(a) On what date is it envisaged that a full complement of members of the National Lotteries Commission's Distributing Agency will be in place, (b) what are the names of current members of the Agency, (c) what measures are being taken against conflicts of interest of Agency's members, (d)(i) what is the current backlog of grant applications from the 2023-24 financial year and (ii) by what date is the backlog expected to be cleared and (e) on what date will applications for the 2024-25 financial year commence? NW1489E

#### **REPLY:**

- (a) The vacancies were advertised in September 2024 with a closing date of 4 October 2024. The appointment of the members will be prioritised and finalised before the end of December 2024.
- (b) The names of the current Distributing Agency members are:  
Ms Marjorie M.M Letoaba  
Mr Thanduxolo Lungile  
Ms Fadila Lagadien  
Ms Gabeba Gaidien
- (c) Conflict of interest in relation to the members, is managed in accordance with the provisions of the Act, as set out below.

The Lotteries Act, (Act No. 57 of 1997), as amended, provides as follows:

**26D. Conflict and declaration of interest —**

(1) *A member of the distributing agency must, before appointment, submit to the Minister, board and the Commission a written statement in which he or she declares whether or not he or she has any direct or indirect interest, financially or otherwise, whether or not such interests—*

(a) *may constitute a conflict of interest in respect of his or her functions as a member of the distributing agency; or*

(b) *could reasonably be expected to compromise the distributing agency in the performance of its functions.*

(2) *If such a member acquires any interest as contemplated in subsection (1), he or she must, within 30 days in writing, declare that fact to the Minister, board and the Commission.*

(3) *A member must not be present at, or take part in, the discussion of or the taking of a decision on any matter before the distributing agency in which that member has an interest contemplated in subsection (1).*

(4) *A member must not use his or her position or privileges, or confidential information obtained as a member of the distributing agency, for personal gain or to improperly benefit another person.*

(5) *Should the Minister or the board become aware of any conflict of interest or perceived conflict of interest or circumstances that may compromise the impartiality of a person in executing his or her duties as a member of the distributing agency, the Minister may, after consultation with the board immediately order such person to stop executing any duties related to distributing grants pending any investigation or inquiry.*

(6) *Should any member of the distributing agency become aware of any conflict of interest or perceived conflict of interest or circumstances that are likely to compromise his or her impartiality in executing his or her duties, such person must immediately stop executing such duties and must within seven days of becoming aware of such conflict or perceived conflict or circumstances inform the Minister, board and the Commission of any such conflict or circumstances and the Minister must, after consultation with the board consider whether such conflict or circumstances is likely to compromise the impartiality of such person in the performance of his or her duties.*

*(7) The Minister may, after consultation with the board, institute disciplinary proceedings against any member of the distributing agency who fails or refuses to comply with or contravenes this section.*

*(8) The Minister, board and the Commission must keep a register of the interests of members of the distributing agency disclosed in terms of this section and must update that register from time to time.*

*(9) The Minister may, after considering whether such conflict or circumstances is likely to compromise the impartiality of such a person, inform such a person of his or her decision which may include—*

*(a) suspending such a person pending any further investigations;*

*(b) instituting a disciplinary inquiry to probe such conflict or circumstances; or*

*(c) dismissal of such a person from executing his or her duties as a distributor of grants on the ground of serious misconduct, where such person has failed to inform the Minister, board and the Commission of the existence of such conflict.*

In addition, the NLC has advised that in accordance with point (3) above, Distribution Agency members are subjected to signing a “Declaration of Conflict of Interest” at the beginning of each adjudication session. If a member is conflicted regarding a specific application, the member is required to declare and be excused from participation in the related discussion and decision-making.

(d) I am advised by the National Lotteries Commission (NLC), that – (i) as at 10 October 2024, 3010 of the 5303 applications remain to be adjudicated; and (ii) based on the current rate of adjudication and if the capacity of the DA’s remains unchanged, we require an additional 11 months to complete the remaining 3010 applications. **the dtic** has advertised for these vacancies and we anticipate a much shorter time-frame to adjudicate the remaining applications.

(e) Applicants have already commenced with registering their profiles on the system in preparation for the call which will be issued in December.

**-END-**