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Department:
Trade, Industry and Competition
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO. 1783

Mr S M Gana (Rise Mzansi) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

- 1) What efforts (a) has and/or (b) will he undertake to address the inefficiencies associated with the National Gambling Policy Council (NGPC), particularly as it relates to (i) resolving disputes on the interpretation of gambling laws and regulations by the Provincial Licencing Authorities (PLAs) and (ii) penalising PLAs that fail to meet regulatory standards;
- 2) What (a) total number of bookmakers who offer online casino games, in contravention of the National Gambling Act, Act 7 of 2004, has been identified by his department annually over the past three years and (b) enforcement actions have been taken against such bookmakers;
- 3) What actions (a) have and/or (b) will (i) his department, (ii) the National Gambling Board and (iii) the NGPC undertake to address the issue of licensed bookmakers offering online casino games, in contravention of the specified Act? NW1985E

REPLY:

1)(a),(b)(i),(ii)

There have not been inefficiencies at the NGPC in the recent past in terms of disputes regarding the interpretation of gambling laws and regulations by Provincial Licensing Authorities (PLAs). The NGPC has met twice in the 2025/26 financial year to discuss matters of clarification, research and to exchange best practices. When issues arise, they will be addressed in terms of the National Gambling Act No.7 of 2004.



The NGPC is a statutory platform in which national and provincial governments consult on the determination and establishment of national gambling law and policy, including the promotion of uniform national and provincial laws in respect of gambling norms and standards, among other functions. It engages on issues of mutual concern and, as a collective, determines appropriate solutions.

The NGPC will convene a meeting in the first quarter of the next financial year, during which illegal online gambling, including the offering of online casino games by licensed bookmakers, will be considered as a key agenda item.

- 2) The NGB does not engage directly with individual operators as the NGB is not a licensing authority in terms of the NGA. Instead, it communicates findings of non-compliance to PLAs during its oversight processes. The NGB has not quantified the number of non-compliant operators but has identified the operators from Gauteng, Mpumalanga, Western Cape, Northern Cape, Eastern Cape and Limpopo. Although the other provinces have not been licensing online casinos, they have not taken action against the operators licensed by the listed provinces to have their websites accessed in their provinces.
- 3) The NGB has issued compliance notices to the relevant provinces during its oversight processes and has requested the submission of corrective action plans. Matters that have been identified through oversight compliance reports have been formally escalated to the NGPC for consideration and resolution, where no corrective action was taken by the PLA concerned.

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