

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR ORAL REPLY

QUESTION NO. 296

Mr M Tshwaku (EFF) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

(a) On what date is it envisaged that the Special Economic Zones Strategic Framework will be finalised; and (b) what kind of economic activity will the framework catalyse? [NO1811E]

REPLY:

- (a) The draft Special Economic Zones Strategic Framework is currently expected to be completed by quarter two of the current 2022/23 financial year, to be used for consultations. The Department set a deadline by the end of the financial year for the finalisation of the Framework. I have requested that this be fast-tracked in light of the serious challenges with spatial development.
- (b) The Framework will seek to promote a range of economic activities, mainly in manufacturing. This will build on the potential in different areas – which may include the agricultural or mining value-chains. Digital hubs and global business services are also being considered. It follows the dtic's new approach to Spatial Industrial Development (SID), which is intended to unlock the latent economic potential in South Africa's different districts. The new approach will assist to streamline all Spatial Industrial Development support measures under a single plan within each District Municipality in the country, using the District Development Model (DDM) as a point of reference.