

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO. 298

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

- (1) Whether, given anticompetitive behaviour of certain taxi companies, which often takes the form of violence and intimidation to gain and protect market share, what are the details of the actions that (a) his department and (b) the Competition Commission, in particular, have taken to address the anticompetitive behaviour of the taxi companies;
- (2)(a) which taxi companies have been investigated by the Competition Commission and
- (b) what were the outcomes of the specified investigations? NW419E

REPLY:

- The legal framework governing the metered taxi industry in South Africa is structured around the National Land Transport Act, which regulates the number of vehicles, quality standards, and fare prices. The Commission has worked within this framework to ensure fair competition and address any anti-competitive practices. The Commission investigates complaints received and can also initiate its own complaints from market research. The only complaint received in relation to alleged anti-competitive behaviour of the conflict between traditional metered taxi companies and ride-hailing services like Uber. More details on the link Ndumiso-Ndlovu Uber-v-Metered-Taxis Final-Paper-as-amended .pdf (compcom.co.za) .
- (a) the Competition Commission has investigated allegations against Uber Technologies (Pty) Ltd (Uber). Uber vs. Metered Taxis.

(b) Outcome: The Competition Commission investigated these allegations but decided not to prosecute (non-referral), concluding that Uber's conduct did not contravene the Competition Act. The Commission's decision to not prosecute Uber was based on a thorough investigation that found no violation of the Competition Act. The Commission found that Uber's business model did not violate competition laws, and the metered taxi industry had the option to refer the complaint to the Competition Tribunal if they disagreed with the decision.

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