



the dtic

Department:
Trade, Industry and Competition
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO. 3792

Ms S I Nkosi (MK) to the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

Whether, given that the forensic investigation and subsequent reports into governance failures at the SA Bureau of Standards (SABS) indicate that a number of the corrective interventions that are currently implemented are largely reactive and focused on disciplinary and consequence management processes, his department has developed a comprehensive institutional reform and governance recovery plan to address the underlying systemic weaknesses that enabled the alleged maladministration to occur; if not, why not; if so, what (a) are the key components of such a plan, (b) measurable performance indicators will be used to assess progress and (c) time frame will Parliament be given to evaluate if the reforms have resulted in improved governance, accountability, organisational culture and operational performance? NW4011E

REPLY:

(a),(b)&(c)

the dtic has mandated the SABS to initiate a review process of the organisation and deliver an institutional reform outcome with a completely reimagined SABS. The Transformation Project has been launched to transform the SABS into a significant, high-performing entity that outperforms global best-in-class organisations in standards development, conformity assessment services and training; with a credible pathway toward modernisation and long-term financial sustainability and profitability. It is a flagship internal transformation programme that is structured to reposition the organisation as a high-performing, financially sustainable and globally competitive entity. The project is envisaged to be finalised by end of September 2026 with a clear roadmap.



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The governance recovery plan to address the underlying systemic weaknesses is underpinned by the appointment of a complete Board, which has established, amongst others, a Technical Committee dedicated to operational excellence. **the dtic** has embedded stringent reporting requirements in the Shareholder's Compact, which includes Annual Performance Plans and Strategic Plans, quarterly expenditure and income statements, quarterly performance reports, and a requirement to submit a schedule of the outcome of any disciplinary hearings and/or criminal charges against employees, including occupation level, race, and gender; and the sanctions and any further actions taken against employees.

The above mechanisms are aimed at institutional reform and the establishment of good governance.

the dtic continues to monitor the turnaround strategy of the SABS.

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