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Department:
Trade, Industry and Competition
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO. 4502

Mr W M Douglas (MK) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

What (a) number of investment conferences, trade missions and business matchmaking events were facilitated by his department in each of the past two financial years, (b) was the total cost of each to his department, (c) total number of investment commitments were secured in each event, (c) was the total Rand value of those commitments and (d) total number of permanent jobs for South Africans have resulted from each commitment to date?

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REPLY:

- (a) The Department undertook **5 export promotion initiatives in 2024/25** and **27 initiatives in 2025/26**. These included both exhibitions and trade missions, some sector-specific and others multi-sectoral in nature. The 2025/26 financial year saw an expanded focus on trade missions to accommodate more export events within budget constraints. Furthermore, the 6th SA Investment Conference was hosted on 31 March 2026, attended by 1213 delegates from 53 countries.
- (b) The Department spent a total of R155.1 million on these initiatives:
- R63.2 million in 2024/25 (including payments linked to events undertaken in the prior financial year)
 - R91.9 million for and 2025/26

The SAIC 2026 expenditure of R44,9 million was fully covered through sponsorship - R48,6 million in sponsorships were secured.



- (c) The expenditure of R155.1 million over the two financial years was directed towards promoting South African value-added products and services through international exhibitions, outward selling missions and inward buying missions. These events were focused on advancing South African exports and were funded through the Export Marketing and Investment Assistance (EMIA) group scheme over the period. The export cycle consists of some export orders secured at an event, with the majority of export orders secured during a period following the event, reflected in reports submitted by companies 6 months after each event. As part of this export cycle, R1.667 billion in export sales were reported as follows during the reporting period:

- R902.7 million in 2024/25
- R765.2 million in 2025/26

SAIC 2026 secured R415bn in private sector investment from 81 companies spread across all 9 of South Africa's provinces; and covered a range of sectors, including agro-processing, automotive, chemicals, energy, tourism and infrastructure - with commitments from international partners and Development Finance Institutes, the total investment ecosystem for SAIC 2026 came to R889,9bn.

- (d) The Department financially supported South African companies to participate at the various export promotion initiatives through the EMIA group mechanism. As part of the EMIA group application process, companies are required to declare employment figures. Based on these declarations, the following jobs were supported through the identified export initiatives:

Description	2024/25	2025/26	Total
Jobs Supported	4 989	54 798	59 787

Projected jobs associated with the 81 private-sector announcements at SAIC 2026 totalled 233,312, based on job figures provided by companies in their announcement declarations at the time of submission.

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