

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO. 5012

Mr S Thambo (EFF) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

(a) What are the reasons for the abrupt resignation of the Chairperson of the National Lotteries Board, Prof N B Pityana, only two years into his term and (b) how does the specified resignation impact the resolution of the controversies and allegations related to the awarding of the National Lotteries licence?

REPLY:

- a) The Chairperson of the NLC Board, Professor Barney Pityana did not resign abruptly. He made a formal request to myself to retire, based on personal considerations and I supported the request.
- b) The Department has initiated the process to appoint a successor in anticipation of the upcoming vacancy. To ensure optimal and maintain operational stability, Professor Pityana will continue to fulfil his leadership duties overseeing the Commission's strategic direction and governance until 31 December 2025 or until a new Chairperson is appointed. The incoming Chairperson, together with the rest of the Board, will assume full responsibility for matters concerning the awarding of the National Lotteries licence.

A formal letter will be addressed to the Speaker as Parliament is responsible for the recommendation of the new Chair.

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