



the dtic

Department:
Trade, Industry and Competition
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO. 6267

Mr S S Zibi (Rise Mzansi) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

- (1) With reference to his reply to question 232 on 28 March 2025, (a) what total number of times has the National Gambling Policy Council (NGPC) been convened since 1 March 2025 and (b) which of the voting members of the NGPC was (i) in attendance and (ii) not in attendance at each of the specified meetings;
- (2) What tangible outcomes, particularly in relation to improved gambling policies and regulations, have resulted from the meetings that have occurred to date;
- (3) What (a) has been the impact of the National Gambling Board (NGB) lacking a fully constituted board and (b) progress has been made since 1 March 2025 in appointing a full and functional board for the NGB;
- (4) Whether his department encountered any challenges since 1 March 2025 in appointing a board; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details, including his department's efforts to overcome the challenges;
- (5) Whether his department has envisaged the date whereby the NGB will have a fully constituted board; if not, what are the reasons that they are unable to provide a date; if so, what date has been envisaged? NW6749E

REPLY:

- 1) (a) The Minister has convened two NGPC meetings for the financial year 2025/2026 as required by section 61 of the National Gambling Act, 2004. The meetings were held on 08 July 2025 and 30 October 2025.

(b)(i) **At the meeting of 8 July 2025 the following Members were in attendance and apologies are:**

Members	Province
MEC Lebogang Maile	Gauteng
MEC Nonkqubela Pieters	Eastern Cape
MEC Moses Ketso Makume	Free State
MEC Rev Musa Zondi	KwaZulu-Natal
MEC Baldwin Tshitereke Matibe	Limpopo
MEC Makhosazane Masilela	Mpumalanga
MEC Bitsa Lenkopane	North West
MEC Deidré Baartman	Western Cape
Apologies	
MEC Venus Blennies	Northern Cape

and (ii) **At the meeting of the 30 October 2025, Members that were in attendance and apologies were as follows:**

Members	Province
MEC Lebogang Maile	Gauteng
MEC Nonkqubela Pieters	Eastern Cape
MEC Bitsa Lenkopane	North West
MEC Jesta Sidell	Mpumalanga
MEC Rev Musa Zondi	KwaZulu-Natal
Apologies	
MEC Deidre Baartman	Western Cape
MEC Baldwin Tshitereke Matibe	Limpopo
MEC Moses Ketso Makume	Free State
MEC Venus Blennies	Northern Cape

- 2) As you are aware, gambling is a concurrent functional area of competence between national government and provinces in terms of the Constitution. Issues of policy and legislation requires serious consideration, deliberations and due processes for proper harmonisation to occur. It should be highlighted that given the time it has taken since the last meeting in March 2018, the initial discussions of the Council were introductory

in nature and aimed at the resuscitation of the Council in order to take stock of the gambling policy, industry, legislation and other key developments.

The outcomes from the meetings held to date include but are not limited to the renewal of focus on the effective regulation of gambling; the assessment of the situation and impact of online gambling in the country and prioritisation of the regulation of online gambling which remains illegal; the assessment of the impact of the inherently illegal gambling advertising challenges and plans to conceptualise the requisite enabling regulatory measures including the introduction of advertising norms and standards in the interim; the understanding of new forms of gambling and their implications; and understanding of the increasing demand for regulation and requirements from provinces.

There was a recognition that efforts were made to regulate the sector with a National Gambling Amendment Bill that remains in Parliament since August 2018, which was recently in Mediation in May/June 2025. There is a renewed attention to strengthen the National Gambling Act, 2004 to address issues of online gambling, gambling advertising, illegal gambling and other clarities such as new modes of gambling. A decision was taken to introduce a Technical Committee to the Council to strengthen and support the work of Council and the resuscitation of provincial structures of CEOs and Chairpersons to be operationalised for a coherent and functional gambling industry.

There was a commitment made by provinces to strengthen enforcement efforts and to assist with alleviating the scourge of gambling in the country, and to report back on efforts they are making to combat the ills in gambling. It should be noted that to date, Provinces licence gambling activities based on the provincial laws in their jurisdictions and the resultant revenues are collected by and in the provinces. The major part of the solution resides in province's to address online gambling, gambling advertising, the monitoring of betting operators and their licences and fighting illegal gambling. The NGPC will also be focusing on these important issues going forward.

- 3) (a) The National Gambling Board (NGB) continues to fulfil its regulatory and administrative functions in accordance with the National Gambling Act, 2004, and the Public Finance Management Act, 1999. Measures have been implemented to ensure

operational continuity and effective governance during the transitional phase pending the appointment of a fully constituted Board. To this end, an Acting Chief Executive Officer was appointed on 23 July 2025 to oversee operations while the process of constituting the Board is being finalised. The Department has maintained oversight to ensure that the entity continues to meet its statutory obligations and that no disruption occurs in the execution of its mandate.

(b) The process to appoint a full and functional Board for the NGB is currently at an advanced stage. The appointment is anticipated to be finalised before the end of the current financial year.

- 4) The Department did encounter a challenge of non-disclosure of conflict of interest and to prevent recurrence, enhanced verification procedures that extend beyond the standard checks of qualifications, references, criminal records, and citizenship, are implemented.
- 5) As mentioned above, the Department envisages to have a fully constituted Board of the NGB before the end of the financial year.

-END-