



the dtic

Department:
Trade, Industry and Competition
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO. 714

Mr R W T Chance (DA) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

What is the status of the Standing Advisory Committee on Intellectual Property, as mandated by the Copyrights Act, Act 98 of 1978? NW784E

REPLY:

In terms of Section 40 of the Copyright Act, No. 98 of 1978 (the Act), the Minister shall appoint the Advisory Committee.

Currently, the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (**the dtic**) does not have an active Standing Advisory Committee. The previous committee has served from the year 2000 until September 2019, due to the few recruitment processes that did not succeed to recruit new members over the years, affected by shortage of skilled professionals in the field. The Act is not clear on the term of office for members as it provides for the discretion of the Minister to determine the term and reappointments.

The Department has initiated a recruitment process in October 2019. All selection and vetting processes were finalised in 2020 and submitted for authorisation. However, these appointments were not concluded by the end of the previous term in the 6th Administration.

The department is in the process to initiate the recruitment process and is planning to appoint the committee within this term.

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