



**MINISTRY OF TOURISM  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

Private Bag X424, Pretoria, 0001, South Africa. Tel. (+27 12) 444 6780, Fax (+27 12) 444 7027  
Private Bag X9154, Cape Town, 8000, South Africa. Tel. (+27 21) 469 5800, Fax: (+27 21) 465 3216

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY:**

**QUESTION FOR ORAL REPLY:**

**Question Number: 249**

**Date of Publication: 15 June 2020**

**NA IQP Number: 21**

**Date of reply: 23 June 2020**

**Ms E R J Spies (DA) to ask the Minister of Tourism:**

- (1) What are the relevant details of the assistance that her department is providing persons employed in the service industry during the Covid-19 pandemic;
- (2) whether she intends to introduce amendments to existing labour policies to assist persons employed in the service industry under similar circumstances?  
NO1581E

**REPLY:**

- (1) The Minister of Tourism worked with the Minister of Employment and Labour brought together the industry and UIF to sign an agreement aimed at enabling the speedy access to and disbursements of UIF benefits to employees in the tourism sector. The process enables employers to submit the claims through TBCSA for submission to UIF with benefits paid directly to employees.

Furthermore, through consultations with the industry to ensure that protocols are developed for various sub sectors such as accommodation, conferencing, restaurants etc. some of these activities will now be open at alert enhanced level 3 of the Risk Adjusted Strategy.

- (2) Employment policy is the mandate of the Minister of Employment and Labour. However, the Department of Tourism will draw lessons from the COVID19 experiences and where applicable make the necessary recommendations in the improvement of conditions of service in the sector (e.g. a large number of people in the sector are not on UIF). Another area that requires attention is the need for local employment within the sector particularly as we focus on the recovery of the economy.