



**MINISTRY OF TOURISM  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY:**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY:**

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**Mr M S F de Freitas (DA) to ask the Minister of Tourism:**

(a) Who are the members of the expert panel of the Tourism Relief Fund for Small-, Micro- and Medium-sized Enterprises that will evaluate applications, (b)(i) how were expert panellists chosen and (ii) what criteria were used to choose the expert panel members, (c) what (i) processes and procedures will be followed in the work of the panel and (ii) oversight measures and mechanisms are in place in this regard, (d) what is the life cycle of the panel and (e) by what date must the work of the panel be completed? NW1048E

**REPLY:**

**(a) Who are the members of the expert panel of TRF that will evaluate applications?**

The expert panel consist of 7 members and they are as follows- Mr Ephraim Moletsane, Mr Lwazi Kubheka, Mr.Thulani Mdlalose, Mr Khaya Sithole, Mr. Humphrey Kubheka, Mr. Siya Dube and Mr Nkagi Lesolle

**(b) (i) How were expert panelist chosen?**

The members of the panel volunteered their services to assist with the financial due diligence portion of the Tourism Relief Fund applications. Their profiles were submitted to the department in order to assess their level of expertise. A recommendation was done to the Accounting Officer for approval.

**(ii) what criteria were used to choose expert panel members?**

The criteria were finance and auditing as the primary functional area sought and any other area that could add value to the process.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Qualification</b>	<b>Expertise</b>
Mr Ephraim Moletsane	Accounting	He was part of the audit teams responsible for the audits in the financial services banking and capital markets division and was exposed to audits of the big four banks, insurance companies as well as small BEE investment holding companies.
Mr Lwazi Kubheka	IT	He has extensive experience in in the areas of IT Strategy, IT Governance, and IT Risk Management. He has over 13 years of consulting experience, which includes secondments to large organisations to facilitate business - IT alignment initiatives, improve IT strategic planning processes and to establish IT governance structures.
Mr Thulani Mdlalose	CA(SA)	He has a professional career of over more than 14 years in Corporate Governance, Public Finance, Auditing, Programme Management, Agri processing manufacturing as well as Private Equity, Retirements Funds, Unit Trusts and Insurance
Mr Khaya Sithole	CA(SA)	He is a member of the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (SAICA) and the Institute of Directors; studied at the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal and completed his CA articles with the FirstRand Group working in the Retail Banking; Investment Banking; Asset Management and Insurance Divisions of the FirstRand Group. He was appointed as the Executive Assistant to the Chief Financial Officer of OUTsurance SA in 2009.
Mr Siyabonga Dube	CA(SA)	He has extensive experience that spans a professional career of over more than 22 years in Corporate Governance, Due Diligence and Valuations, Public Finance, Auditing, Infrastructure Development as well as Banking. He also oversees the panel of experts.
Mr Humphrey Kubheka	BComm Accounting Post graduate Diploma in Investment Analysis and Portfolio Management	Specialises in financial Accounting, Taxation, Auditing and Managerial Accounting and Finance, Global Markets, valuation and investment.
Mr Nkagi Lesolle	BComm (Accounting) Bcompt Hons (CTA)	Over 10 years' experience in advisory service environment primarily in corporate finance (mergers & acquisitions) Advised AMSA on its landmark R2,3 billion B-BBEE deal which ensured that the primary steel sector is aligned with the transformation objectives set out in the B-BBEE Codes of Good Practice

**(c) What (i) processes and procedures will be followed in the work of the panel?**

There is an assessment team, composed of officials within the department, who receive and validates the documents received from applicants. The expert panel assesses the financial portion of the documents namely: six months bank statements, business profiles and the B-BBEE Certificates/ Affidavit and then make recommendations per applicant to the Tourism Relief Fund Adjudication Committee.

The Adjudication Committee considers the recommendations of the evaluation committee on the applications received and check if the documents submitted do inform the panel's decision-making process which is composed by officials within the department for approval.

**(ii) What oversight measures and mechanisms are in place in this regard?**

The operations of the overall project are overseen by the DDG: Tourism Sector Support Services with the support of supervisors in each area, the assessment team is supervised by the Director dealing with Enterprise Development in the department. The Panel of Experts is supervised by one of the experts and lastly the adjudication is chaired by the Director dealing with Market Access in the department, who finally provides a report on the approved and unapproved enterprises for noting to the Accounting Officer.

**(d) What is the life cycle of the panel?**

As soon as the expected 4000 enterprises are approved which will mean the R200 000 000 will be by then exhausted and the life cycle of the panel will thus end.

**(e) By what date must the work of the panel be completed?**

It is not known when the last enterprise will be evaluated, thus no date was identified to complete the panel's work.