

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For oral reply)

QUESTION NO. 326

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 35

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**Mrs X C Makasi (ANC) to ask the Minister of Tourism:**

- (1)
  - (a) How did South Africans benefit from the half-year tourism growth since 1 January 2012 and
  - (b) what was the total for domestic growth;
- (2) what has been the increase in jobs in tourism since the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter report?

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## THE MINISTER OF TOURISM ANSWERS:

### Question 1(a)

The increase in international tourist arrivals by 10.5% from January to June 2012 will be beneficial to South Africans as tourism has been identified as a critical sector for job creation and economic development.

From January to June 2012 there were 12.5m domestic trips and a total of 6.3m domestic tourists with a total spend of R10.2bn'

### Question 1(b)

Latest figures for Domestic Tourism show, amongst others, the following:

- A total of 13,9 million South Africans took a domestic trip in 2011, 3% more than the 13,5 million who took a domestic trip in 2010;
- On average there were 1.9 domestic trips taken in 2011 resulting in a total of 26,4 million domestic trips, compared to the 29,7 million in 2010;
- While the average spend per trip increased from R710 in 2010 to R780 in 2011, total revenue generated from domestic tourism decreased by 3.9% to R20,3 billion in 2011 due to decreased volumes of trips;
- The average spend per day increased from R160/day in 2010 to R170/day in 2011 whilst the average length of trips remained constant at 4.4 nights.
- As the length of stay remained constant, the total bed nights decreased by 12.2% from 131 million in 2010 to 115 million in 2011 driven by the decline in the volume of domestic trips.
- Day trips increased from 22,7 million trips in 2010 to 274,5 million trips in 2011;
- There was also an increase in the number of people who took a day trip in 2011, from 12,2 million in 2010 to 12,3 million in 2011.

### Question 2:

The number of jobs that are directly created by the Tourism Sector is measured by the Stats SA Tourism Satellite Account and is only available on an annual basis.