



**MINISTRY OF TOURISM  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY:**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY:**

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**Mr J A Esterhuizen (IFP) to ask the Minister of Tourism:**

Whether his department has taken any immediate steps to address and allay any international xenophobia-related fears that may have arisen due to recent attacks directed at foreign nationals which may cause a decline in tourism to South Africa; if so, what are the relevant details?

**NW1794E**

**REPLY:**

Yes, the Department of Tourism issued a press statement condemning in the strongest possible terms, the attacks on foreign nationals. The statement, in line with government's overall message, has also made it very clear that these attacks do not reflect the sentiments of the nation, whose reputation as a welcoming and hospitable people has earned global recognition. Having expressed regret for these unfortunate incidents, the Department has also affirmed that tourism activities have not been affected and further commended the swift action taken by the law enforcement agencies in putting a stop to such senseless actions.

In the build-up to the 2015 Tourism Indaba, the Department and South African Tourism have also reached out to the tourism stakeholders, exhibitors and buyers attending Indaba to reaffirm the sentiments expressed above.