



MINISTER  
TOURISM  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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## NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

### QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY:

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#### **1527. Mr S R Moodley (MK) to ask the Minister of Tourism:**

With regard to the backlog of tourist operators licences, (a) what (i) are the reasons that tour operators have been forced to operate illegally due to delays and (ii) steps have been taken to protect them, (b) how will her department ensure that the licensing process is transparent, efficient and business friendly and (c)(i) what is causing the crippling backlog of tourist operating licenses and (ii) by what date will the backlog be cleared?

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### REPLY

The Department of Tourism continuously engage with the Department of Transport on the eradication of backlogs and modernisations of the operator's licensing services. The Member is advised to direct the detailed questions to the Department of Transport in respect of their mandate.

Notwithstanding the above, I have corresponded with the Minister of Transport with regard to the matter of tour operator licensing services. The Office of the President, as part of the *Red Tape Reduction programme* within *Operation Vulindlela*, recently coordinated a meeting between the two Ministers and relevant officials to set in place a process to resolve the challenges that are being experienced by tour operators. I am confident that there is more than sufficient consensus to ensure that the matter receives the necessary and timeous attention of the Department of Transport.

**END**