

Home Affairs

Aim

The aim of the Department of Home Affairs is to protect and regulate the interests of the inhabitants of the Republic of South Africa, in respect of their individual status, identity and specific rights and powers, and to promote a supporting service to this effect.

Policy developments

The Department and the MarPless consortium signed a contract on 8 November 1999 for the Home Affairs national identification system (Hanis), which will be implemented at a cost of R1 029,5 million over a 5-year period. The system will automate the manual fingerprint identification system, replacing the identity document with an identity card, and integrating these systems with the existing population register. The Department, in collaboration with the Department of Public Works, is upgrading the New Cooperations Building to accommodate the project. The first identity cards will be delivered by late 2001.

The system will also benefit other departments, including:

- *Welfare*: for the identification of pensioners before they are registered for payment of the social grant and verification at paypoints
- *Labour*: for verification before monthly payments from the Unemployment Insurance Fund are made
- *Health*: to identify claimants eligible for social grants, such as compensation for occupational diseases
- *Transport*: for on-line verification of identification for drivers' licences
- *Housing*: for on-line verification of benefit recipients' identities.

Progress on internal reform relates to the implementation of the recommendations of the White Commission regarding irregular public service promotions. Treasury has approved a process to recover 149 overpayments.

The Department is drafting legislation on migration to be submitted to Parliament in 2000. The Migration Bill proposes the establishment of an Immigration Service to monitor and investigate immigration matters.

Expenditure estimates

Table 5.1 Expenditure by programme

R million	Expenditure outcome			Revised estimate	Medium-term expenditure estimate		
	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03
Administration	80,8	89,3	125,0 ¹	141,4	147,3	145,2	156,8
Services to citizens	193,5	231,6	301,6	288,5	536,0	559,6	500,5
Migration	106,3	128,5	143,8	138,4	142,7	143,7	153,5
Auxiliary and associated services	53,3	84,2	612,0	722,0	454,1	103,6	108,6
Departmental vote¹	433,9	533,6	1 182,4	1 290,2	1 280,2	952,1	919,4
Public works ²	–	–	23,3	96,6	15,2	17,4	5,5
Total	433,9	533,6	1 205,7	1 386,9	1 295,4	969,5	924,9
Change to 1999 Budget estimate	–	–	–	47,7	317,0	206,1	–

¹ Authorised losses added 1998/99 R0,8 million.

² Appropriated on Vote 26: Public Works.

- *Administration* is responsible for the overall management of the Department.
- *Services to citizens* grants specified rights and powers to members of the population, addressing travel and passport matters, citizenship issues and population registration.
- *Migration* controls immigration according to South Africa's skills and investment needs, and also controls visitors who enter the country on a temporary basis.
- *Auxiliary and associated services* supports the Film and Publication Board and the Film and Publications Review Board, the Government Printing Works, government motor transport and the Independent Electoral Commission.

Table 5.2 Economic classification of expenditure

R million	Expenditure outcome			Revised estimate	Medium-term expenditure estimate		
	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03
Current							
Personnel	302,5	351,3	399,6	390,1	431,1	452,2	473,6
Transfer payments	15,3	16,3	10,3	720,5	453,9	103,4	108,4
Other	92,3	120,5	157,9	155,0	177,5	164,8	167,1
Capital							
Transfer payments	0,3	30,2	600,3	0,2	–	–	–
Acquisition of capital assets	23,5	15,3	37,7	121,0	232,9	249,1	175,8
Total	433,9	533,6	1 205,7	1 386,9	1 295,4	969,5	924,9

Personnel expenditure increases from R390,1 million in 1999/00 to R473,6 million in 2002/03. This is due to provision for salary improvements, formerly under the Vote: Improvement of Conditions of Service, and a shift from other current expenditure to cover a persistent shortfall on personnel budgets. Current transfer payments increased sharply from R10,3 million in 1998/99 to R720,5 million in 1999/00 as a result of a R713,5 million transfer to the Independent Electoral Commission for costs incurred in the 1999 general elections. The Commission receives a transfer of R300 million in 2000/01 and R100 million in 2001/02 for the 2000 local government elections. Expenditure on the acquisition of capital assets increases from R121,0 million in 1999/00 to R175,8 million in 2002/03. This increase relates to the Home Affairs national identification system

project, which comes into operation during 2000/01, as well as the carry-through effect of delayed projects, microfilming of records and the office automation system.

Programme 1: Administration

Table 5.3 Programme expenditure

R million	Budget estimate	Adjusted appropriation 1999/00	Revised estimate	Medium-term expenditure estimate		
				2000/01	2001/02	2002/03
1999 Budget	139,5	141,4	141,4	137,0	140,0	–
2000 Budget	–	–	–	147,3	145,2	156,8
Change to 1999 Budget estimate	–	1,9	1,9	10,3	5,2	–

Administration comprises financial management, personnel and provisioning administration, legal and other office support services and the formulation of policy by the Minister and management of the Department.

The increase from the 1999 Budget is due to a provision for salary improvements that also includes the carry-through portion from 1 July 1999 and the shifting of the Migration Training Unit from the *Migration* programme to *Administration*.

Programme 2: Services to citizens

Table 5.4 Programme expenditure

R million	Budget estimate	Adjusted appropriation 1999/00	Revised estimate	Medium-term expenditure estimate		
				2000/01	2001/02	2002/03
1999 Budget	294,6	288,5	288,5	353,8	359,4	–
2000 Budget	–	–	–	536,0	559,6	500,5
Change to 1999 Budget estimate	–	(6,1)	(6,1)	182,2	200,2	–

The *Services to citizens* programme provides specified rights and services to citizens of South Africa. This includes passports and other travel documents, the repatriation of and financial assistance to South African citizens abroad who have financial problems, the determination, granting and forfeiture of South African citizenship, and processing of applications for work, study and temporary residence. The Fingerprint verification subprogramme plays a crucial role in identifying foreigners and confirming the identity of all people in South Africa.

The increase in the MTEF projections is due to provisions for the Home Affairs national information system project and provision for salary improvements.

Outputs and service delivery trends

Table 5.5 Services to citizens: Key activities and outputs

Key activities	Outputs			
	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00
Total number of fingerprints	35 207 490	36 949 460	38 783 319	40 867 575
Identity documents issued	2 222 400	2 498 900	3 127 900	2 940 557
Passports and travelling documents issued	459 351	889 340	1 035 116	1 201 532
Granting of SA citizenship	14 107	15 713	22 409	22 305
New recordings on population register	1 830 886	1 980 320	2 001 700	2 044 943
Marriages recorded	298 615	239 554	242 453	266 578
Deaths registered	363 238	317 155	401 015	429 779

The Department faced an unprecedented challenge to provide bar-coded identity documents to eligible voters to enable them to register in time for the 1999 general elections. Measures to cope with the increase in the applications for identity documents included:

- Appointments of additional casual workers countrywide
- Deployment of mobile units (350) in areas where offices did not exist – extension of these units included schools, old age homes and places of mass employment
- Extension of office working hours including weekends where necessary.

The Department managed to issue identity documents to people who registered with temporary registration certificates, within a period shorter than the standard two months.

Policy developments

The Department is currently drafting amendments to the South African Citizenship Act of 1995 and the Births and Deaths Registration Act of 1992. The amendments are aimed at harmonising these Acts with the Constitution, clarifying certain definitions in the former Act and introducing new provisions for the latter.

Programme 3: Migration

Table 5.6 Programme expenditure

R million	Budget estimate	Adjusted appropriation 1999/00	Revised estimate	Medium-term expenditure estimate		
				2000/01	2001/02	2002/03
1999 Budget	154,4	138,4	138,4	162,2	148,6	–
2000 Budget	–	–	–	142,7	143,7	153,5
Change to 1999 Budget estimate	–	(16,0)	(16,0)	(19,5)	(4,9)	–

Migration maintains a population register of South African citizens and of foreigners who have acquired the right to permanent residence in the country; handles migration matters in foreign countries; controls visas and admission of travellers at ports of entry; deports illegal aliens; and considers and processes refugee cases. The programme also provides for remuneration and allowances to members of the Immigration Selection Board and the Refugee Appeal Board.

The decrease in the MTEF allocation is due to the suspension of funds to the Department of Public Works for the National Interdepartmental Structure for Border Control.

Outputs and service delivery trends

Table 5.7 Migration: Key activities and outputs

Key activities	Outputs			
	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00
Persons cleared by immigration officers	26 951 219	26 877 074	29 200 642	– ¹
Deportations	580	851	793	606
Repatriations	180 713	176 351	181 266	183 861
Refugee applications	18 034	9 474	11 284	9 536
Refugee Affairs Appeal Board cases	–	–	–	3 623
Visas issued	676 835	572 834	550 562	505 847
Temporary residence issued	87 424	67 525	51 060	49 931
Permanent residence issued	4 330	3 898	3 956	2 767

¹ Not available at time of printing.

The Department repatriated 183 861 illegal aliens during 1999, an increase of 14 per cent from the previous year. The Department is keen to attain a hundred per cent accuracy in the identification of the legality of citizenship, while minimising the time required to verify this status. The number of visas issued decreased by 9 per cent in 1999/00. Re-entry visas issued decreased from 138 461 in 1998 to 71 323 in 1999 as a result of the relaxation of re-entry visa requirements.

Policy developments

The Department is completing a computerised visa system in all foreign missions and important border posts, which will be linked to the head office in Pretoria. The system has high security features, and once implemented it will expedite the clearance of people at ports of entry, as data capturing will be reduced from 25 to 4 seconds per person.

The provisions of the Refugee Act are to be implemented in April 2000. The Act provides for the establishment of an independent Refugee Appeal Board and Refugee Receiving Offices.

Programme 4: Auxiliary and associated services

Table 5.8 Programme expenditure

R million	Budget estimate	Adjusted appropriation 1999/00	Revised estimate	Medium-term expenditure estimate		
				2000/01	2001/02	2002/03
1999 Budget	722,0	722,0	722,0	310,2	110,2	–
2000 Budget	–	–	–	454,1	103,6	108,6
Film and Publication Board	–	–	2,9	3,0	2,5	3,0
Government Printing Works	–	–	4,0	1,0	0,9	1,0
Government Motor Transport	–	–	1,6	6,1	0,2	0,2
IEC	–	–	713,5	300,0	100,0	104,4
Change to 1999 Budget estimate	–	–	–	143,9	(6,6)	–

The *Auxiliary and associated services* programme is responsible for:

- Funding the Independent Electoral Commission
- Providing grants-in-aid to the Consultative Committee for Performing Artists

- Augmenting the Government Printing Works Trading Account for the printing and supply of stationery to government departments, as well as the provision of government publications for sale to the public
- Classification of certain films and publications.

The increase in the MTEF allocation relates to the higher allocation for the Independent Electoral Commission to prepare for the provincial and local elections; these should require less funding than the national elections.

Public entities reporting to the Minister responsible for Home Affairs

Film and Publication Board

The Film and Publication Board regulates the creation, production, possession, exhibition and distribution of films and publications and prohibits the exploitative use of children in pornography on the internet.

The Board anticipates an increase in workload in 2000 related to digital video discs and the reclassification of films classified to comply with new norms. This will result in a 25 per cent higher workload. The Film and Publication Board is funded by an annual grant of R3,3 million and made a surplus of R0,6 million in 1999/00.

Independent Electoral Commission

The Independent Electoral Commission manages all elections in national, provincial and local spheres and conducts referendums as required.

An amount of R713 million was allocated to the Commission for 1999/00, falling to R300 million for 2000/01 and R200 million in 2001/02.

Government Printing Works

The Government Printing Works provides printing, stationery and related items to government departments, provincial governments and local authorities, and publishes, markets and distributes government publications. The Works also provides related services to departments, the printing industry and other African countries. Services include manufacturing fingerprint ink for the South African Police Service and specialised items such as postage stamps to the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Kingdom of Lesotho.

Although the trading account of the Government Printing Works in Pretoria generates sufficient revenue to enable it to be self-sustaining, this is not sufficient to offset the annual losses of the Umtata Printing Works. These losses are mainly related to salary costs of R10,5 million each year.

Demand for government publications, maps and official Gazettes increased revenue to R27,9 million in 1998/99 compared with R26,4 million in 1997/98; a surplus of R2,0 million was paid to the National Revenue Fund.

Some provincial governments requested their provincial gazettes to be printed and distributed by the Government Printing Works. The figures are as follows:

Table 5.9 Provincial gazettes printed by the Government Printing Works

Province (editions)	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99
Eastern Cape	112	74	94	110
Gauteng	140	203	155	134
Northern Cape	92	83	114	95
Northern Province	112	95	115	135
North West	65	56	81	145
Mpumalanga	100	85	123	185

The number of Government Gazette editions increased to 1 206 in 1998/99 from 985 in the previous year.

The private sector still supplies printed matter for government purposes. The value of orders decreased by approximately 31 per cent from R68,9 million in 1997/98 to R47,7 million in 1998/99. Small, medium and micro enterprises have shown considerable interest in tendering for printing jobs.

Discussions continue with provincial governments on the rationalisation and possible privatisation of printing services. A final draft report to Cabinet on alternatives to privatisation will be available in mid-2000.

Table 5.10 Government Printing Works Trading Account

R million	Income	Expenditure	Surplus/shortage
1995/96	72,3	63,6	8,7
1996/97	88,0	85,1	2,9
1997/98	72,1	69,5	2,6
1998/99 ¹	313,4	320,4	(7,0)
1999/00 ¹	321,9	334,8	(12,9)
2000/01 ¹	331,4	343,7	(12,3)
2001/02 ¹	345,2	355,7	(10,5)

¹ Internal charges include R20,5 million for 1995/96, R21,0 million for 1996/97 and an estimated R22,2 million for 1998/99.

