NATIONAL ASSEMBLY QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY QUESTION NUMBER: 100 [NW101E]

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100. Mr T D Harris (DA) to ask the Minister of Finance:

- (1) whether, with reference to the reply of the Minister of Rural Development and Land Reform to question 3173 on 09 December 2013, any discussions have been held with the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform on the reopening of land claims; if not, why not; if so, (a) what were the outcomes of these discussions;
- (2) whether the development of a budgetary framework for the re-opening of land claims has been agreed upon with the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform; if not, why not; if so, what amount has been budgeted for land restitution in each of the next five years;
- (3) whether he has assessed the affordability of this project and the likelihood of its success in the short to medium term; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (4) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

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REPLY:

- Yes, the National Treasury has held extensive discussions with the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform. Agreement has been reached on the need to improve the land reform and land restitution programmes, and to ensure better value for money. Discussions are underway to assess the implications of extending the deadline for the submission of land claims.
- 2. Yes, a budget framework has been agreed. The land restitution programme has been allocated R8.7 billion (R2, 7; R2, 7; R3, 3 billion) over the medium term.
- 3. The affordability and the need to improve the quality of the spending is under discussion with the department.
- 4. South Africa land reform and restitution programmes will be addressed in the 2014 Estimates of National Expenditure.