NATIONAL ASSEMBLY QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY QUESTION NUMBER: 1808 [NW2027E]

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1808. Dr M J Figg (DA) to ask the Minister of Finance:

Whether, with reference to the National Treasury's decision to implement an Integrated Financial Management System (IFMS), the implementation of the IFMS has commenced; if not, why not; if so, what (a) progress has been made and (b) is the current status of the IFMS?

NW2027E

REPLY:

The IFMS team, led by the Office of the Accountant-General, has worked intensively and achieved several successes, which include:

- Several appointments have been made in the Chief Directorate: IFMS, with the
 most recent being the Chief Director: IFMS. These officials bring capacity and
 the necessary skills to accelerate implementation of the new solution;
- A panel consisting of service providers was established within a few months of Cabinet's endorsement (November 2013) and appointments for several work streams have been made;
- A Programme Management Office (PMO) has been established for purposes of strengthening governance, implementing structures and controls as required by project governance frameworks;
- Mapping of processes for the new solution utilising key existing products as a departure point are now advanced and change-management activities which are being executed and forward-planned;
- Negotiations to terminate contracts with service providers, who were part of the previous project iteration, are at an advanced stage with majority having inprinciple agreements;
- A communications strategy is being put in place for broader communication on the progress of the project as well as to provide previews of upcoming events and milestones:

- The team also continues to engage directly with a broad spectrum of stakeholders. The extent and frequency of engagements will further intensify as the project gains momentum over the next several months; and
- The team is presently preparing to conduct readiness assessments at departments, to ensure that their IT infrastructure and platforms are synchronised with the IFMS rollout plan.