

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY
QUESTION NUMBER: 64 [NW66E]
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64. Dr M J Figg (DA) to ask the Minister of Finance:

- (1) With reference to his reply to question 1995 on 14 November 2014, (a) from which state departments were the two chief financial officers (CFOs) who were appointed to their respective positions without the necessary formal, finance-related qualifications and (b)(i) what qualifications do they possess and (ii) on whose authority were they appointed in each case;
- (2) (a) why did eight CFOs fail to provide information towards the survey and (b) what steps has he taken to ascertain the qualifications of the outstanding respondents?

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REPLY:

- (1) (a) At the time of the survey, the acting chief financial officer of the Department of Arts and Culture and the chief financial officer of the Department of Public Enterprises did not possess the necessary formal, finance related qualifications.
 - (b) (i) Chief financial officers from both the Departments mentioned in (a) only possessed Matric (Grade 12).
 - (ii) In terms of the Public Service Act, 1994, the authority to appoint personnel in a department is vested with the Executive Authority responsible for that Department. Executive Authorities, however, sometimes delegate this power to accounting officers of the respective departments.
- (2) (a) The process to collate the educational information of chief financial officers was in a form of a survey. Despite repeated requests, chief financial officers from eight (8) departments did not provide the required information.
 - (b) Due to time constraints for finalizing the Cabinet Memorandum on CFO Qualifications, the National Treasury was unable to escalate the matter of non-complying chief financial officers with their respective accounting officers. During 2015, another survey will be conducted and if departments do not provide the National Treasury with the required information timeously, the matter will be escalated to their respective accounting officers.