

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NUMBER 1268

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 22 SEPTEMBER 2006

MRS S J LOE (DA) TO ASK THE MINISTER OF FINANCE:

- (1) Since the Promotion of Access to Information Act, Act 2 of 2000, came into effect, (a) how many times has it been used to obtain information from the National Treasury and (b) what documentation was requested in each instance;
- (2) whether the National Treasury complied with such request in each instance; if not, why not; if so,
- (3) whether the National Treasury complied within 30 days; if not, (a) why did the National Treasury not refuse the request, (b) how many times has a request thus refused been taken to court, (c) what was the outcome of the court case in each instance and (d) what were the associated costs of the litigation to the National Treasury in each case? **N1671E**

REPLY:

At the outset, it needs to be stated that members, when formulating questions, must, in the interests of effectiveness and efficiency, take previous questions that are similar to or pertains to the same subject matter into consideration and publicly available information, specifically the annual reports of the Human Rights Commission in respect of access to information matters, into consideration.

- (1) (a) A total number of forty-three (43) requests for information in terms of the Promotion of Access to Information Act No. 2 of 2000 (the Act) have been received by the National Treasury since the commencement of the Act on 9 March 2001.
- (b) The requests deals with a wide range of topics, which may be summarized as follows:
 - Tender documentation;
 - Documentation relating to state expenditure;
 - Documentation relating to donor funding;
 - Documentation relating to international loan agreements;
 - Documentation relating to the 2010 Soccer World Cup;

- Documentation relating to bank matters;
 - Documentation relating to exchange control matters;
 - Documentation relating to the implementation of the Promotion of Access to Information Act; and
 - Documentation relating to personnel matters.
- (2) The National Treasury did not grant all requests. Certain requests were partially refused, refused in full, deemed refused or transferred in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Act.
- (3) In respect of requests granted, the National Treasury in most instances granted the requests within the periods prescribed by the Act. The periods in certain circumstances, such as where notification of third parties is required, exceed 30 days.
- (a) Requests not granted or refused within the periods prescribed by the Act are, in terms of the Act, regarded as deemed to be refused.
- (b) Three occasions, all related to tender documentation.
- (c) The first application was dismissed because the applicant failed to exhaust the internal remedies available in terms of the Act. In the second application the relief, sought (access) was granted as the application was not opposed by the National Treasury. The third application is pending.
- (d) The Office of the State Attorney acted and is acting on behalf of the National Treasury in respect to litigation. Not all accounts relating to the applications have been received.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NUMBER 1298

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 22 SEPTEMBER 2006

MR E W TRENT (DA) TO ASK THE MINISTER OF FINANCE:

- (1) In respect of each year since 2002, up to and including 2006, (a) how many parties were held by the National Treasury, (b) what was the nature of the party in each instance, (c) how much did each party cost and (d) from which budget was the money allocated;
- (2) whether any sponsorships were obtained in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details in each case? **N1701E**

REPLY:

- (1) (a) All central and provincial government departments are required to comply with the Standard Chart of Accounts which was introduced on 1 April 2004. In terms of budget items, the Standard Chart of Accounts does not provide for parties. However, if the Honourable member wishes to view year-end functions as parties then I can report that the National Treasury holds 1 year-end function per annum. These are conventionally supplemented by the year-end functions of the nine Divisions. This resulted in a total of 27 year-end functions being held from 2002 to 2006.

(b) These were held on a Divisional and Departmental basis in order to express appreciation to National Treasury employees for their hard work, loyalty and dedication.

(c) In 2002 the total expenditure was R281 118; in 2003 it was R298 490; in 2004 it was R101 547; in 2005 it was R112 084; and an amount of R8 939 was paid in January 2006 for two of the year-end functions that had been held at the very end of 2005.
- 2) No sponsorships were obtained in this regard.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NUMBER 1336

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 22 SEPTEMBER 2006

MR S E OPPERMAN (DA) TO ASK THE MINISTER OF FINANCE:

Whether any function was organised to mark the occasion of the delivery of the National Treasury's budget vote in the National Assembly and the National Council of Provinces in 2006; if so, (a) what total amount was spent on this function, (b) from which budget was the money allocated, (c) what amount was spent on (i) food and refreshments, (ii) venue, (iii) entertainment, (iv) staff and (v) transport and (d) how many people were invited to attend the function? **N1743E**

REPLY:

No functions were organised for this purpose therefore no costs were incurred.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NUMBER 1415

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 13 OCTOBER 2006

REPUBLISHED WITH AMENDED VERSION: 20 OCTOBER 2006

DUE TO PARLIAMENT 9 NOVEMBER 2006

MR E W TRENT (DA) TO ASK THE MINISTER OF FINANCE:

In respect of the 2005-06 annual report of the National Treasury and the annual reports of each statutory and other entity reporting to him, (a) what was the (i) budgeted cost, (ii) actual cost and (iii) unit cost of each annual report and (b) how many copies of each were (i) produced and (ii) distributed? **N1869E**

REPLY:

National Treasury

2005-06 annual report

(a)(i) Budgeted cost	(a)(ii) Actual cost	(a)(iii) Unit Cost	(b)(i) Produced	(b)(ii) Distributed
R 200,000	R 151,857,12	R 50,62	3000	3000

Accounting Standards Board

2005-06 annual report

(a)(i) Budgeted cost	(a)(ii) Actual cost	(a)(iii) Unit Cost	(b)(i) Produced	(b)(ii) Distributed
R 40 000	R 41 098.87	R 20.55	2000	1850

Development Bank of Southern Africa

2005-06 annual report

(a)(i) Budgeted cost	(a)(ii) Actual cost	(a)(iii) Unit Cost	(b)(i) Produced	(b)(ii) Distributed
R1 000 000	R1 085 665,32			± 3 000 full sets to date
	Total for DBSA/ Development Fund annual reports (R749 571,66);	DBSA/Dev. Fund Annual Reports – R74,96 each	10 000	
	Slip covers (R21 443,40);	Slip covers – R10,72 each	2 000	
	Activities reports (projects) (R314 650,26)	DBSA/Dev. Fund Activities reports – R44,95 each	7 000	

NOTE:

The total amount was spent on publishing both the DBSA and DBSA Development Fund annual and activities reports each bound back-to-back. The amount also included expenditure on slip covers and ten thousand compact disc electronic copies.

More annual than activities reports are printed based on the experience that a significant number of readers target DBSA financials than projects implemented by the Bank.

The report was launched mid-August 2006 and will be distributed for managing marketing and investor relations throughout the year until the next issue.

South African Revenue Services

2005-06 annual report

(a)(i) Budgeted cost	(a)(ii) Actual cost	(a)(iii) Unit Cost	(b)(i) Produced	(b)(ii) Distributed
R 450,000 R 20.000 budgeted for additional distribution of the Annual Reports to SARS stakeholders.	R 171,980,40	R 57,33	3000	1886. The rest are scheduled for distribution during October/November.

The Production of the 2005-06 Annual Report was done internally using SARS resources including all writing, layout and design and final editing.

Statistics South Africa

2005-06 annual report

(a)(i) Budgeted cost	(a)(ii) Actual cost	(a)(iii) Unit Cost	(b)(i) Produced	(b)(ii) Distributed
R 220,000,00	R 222,107,00	R 106,18	1600	1094

Public Investment Corporation

2005-06 annual report

(a)(i) Budgeted cost	(a)(ii) Actual cost	(a)(iii) Unit Cost	(b)(i) Produced	(b)(ii) Distributed
R 450,000,00	R 315,017,10	R 157,51	2000	2000

Financial Intelligence Centre

2005-06 annual report

(a)(i) Budgeted cost	(a)(ii) Actual cost	(a)(iii) Unit Cost	(b)(i) Produced	(b)(ii) Distributed
R 83,959,00	R 53,955,00	R 53,96	1000	800