

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY
QUESTION NUMBER: 628 [NW709E]
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628. Dr D T George (DA) to ask the Minister of Finance:

Whether he was aware of the covert intelligence unit operating within the SA Revenue Service; if so, how was the operation of the unit (a) funded and (b) accounted for in the entity's annual financial statements?

NW709E

REPLY:

Until the allegations began surfacing in the media, I was not aware of a “covert unit” operating within South African Revenue Service (SARS). However, SARS has already commissioned forensic investigations and independent Legal Counsel to help them understand the nature of the unit, its funding and how it was accounted for in annual financial statements. This process will take time and will need to be conducted unhindered and uninterrupted.

Over and above the SARS internal processes, I have established an Advisory Committee led by retired Judge Kroon to further assist in looking at the overall Organisation including all the allegations.

