NATIONAL ASSEMBLY QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY QUESTION NUMBER: 1570 [NW1720E]

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1570. Mr M M Dlamini (EFF) to ask the Minister of Finance:

Whether the SA Airways call centre is outsourced; if not, what is the total number of persons who are employed at the call centre; if so, (a) on what date was the contract awarded, (b) what is the name of the company that was awarded the contract and (c) what is the total cost of the contract?

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REPLY:

SAA currently operates one (1) Call Centre (outsourced) and seven (7) Contact or Service Centres (insourced).

- (a) & (b) Merchants, a Dimension Data Company and SAA entered into a Service Provider Agreement effective 1 April 2010 until 31 March 2015 for the Call Centre Services for SAA. During January 2015, both parties jointly agreed to extend the duration of the services for a further three years (1 April 2015 until 31 March 2018) when Merchants agreed to a 25% price discount to SAA. Senior Management at the time, in liaison with NT, agreed that major contracts be extended with existing service providers if there was a >20% cut in cost. The duration of the services with Merchants was further extended for six months (1 April 2018 until 30 September 2018) with a three-month notice period, to enable SAA to proceed with an RFP process, in alignment with the newly developed SAA's Customer Experience Architecture.
- (c) As per FY 2018 (1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018), the annual cost of the contract was ZAR 97.6 million.