

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**  
**QUESTION NUMBER: 901 [NW982E]**  
**DATE OF PUBLICATION: 23 MARCH 2018**

**901. Mr N F Shivambu (EFF) to ask the Minister of Finance:**

- (1) Did the Public Investment Corporation (PIC) buy the stake of a certain company (name furnished) in MTN Nigeria; if so, when were the negotiations with regard to the transaction started, finalised and signed;
- (2) (a) whether the PIC or the specified company initiated the transaction between PIC and the company and (b) who from the relevant entity and/or company initiated the transaction;
- (3) (a) what amount did the PIC pay the company, (b) on what date was it paid and (c)(i) what was the reported value of MTN Nigeria shares that PIC was negotiating to buy from the company at the date on which the transaction was finalised and (ii) what was the value of MTN Nigeria shares at the end of the 2015-16 financial year;
- (4) did the PIC recognise the potential conflict of interest in a transaction that involved MTN Nigeria, the company and a certain person (name furnished)?

NW982E

**REPLY:**

- (1) The Public Investment Corporation (PIC) purchased a block of 7 105 633 MTN Nigeria shares in an Over-the-Counter (OTC) market transaction through Standard Bank in March 2015.
- (2) A registered stock-broker in Nigeria presented the block of shares to the PIC.

- (3) An amount of USD 230.9 million was paid for the block of shares in March 2015. The value as at the end of the 2015/16 financial year was USD132.6 million, after a decline in value due to a regulatory fine that was imposed on MTN Nigeria.
  
- (4) The PIC is satisfied that any conflicts of interest were handled correctly in the investment decision process. The PIC has a policy dealing with Politically Exposed Persons (PEPs) and transactions involving PEPs is subject to an enhanced due diligence process which may also involve the PIC Board's Social and Ethics Committee and Investment Committee.