

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION 82

“Dr. A Lotriet (DA) to ask the Minister of Arts and Culture:

- (1) Whether all (a)(i) office and (ii) sites of her department and (b) entities reporting to her adhere to the Occupational Health and Safety Act, Act 85 of 1993; if not, (aa) why not, (bb) which facilities fail to adhere to the Act, (cc) where are they situated and (dd) what (aaa) aspects of the Act does each such facility not comply with and (bbb) action has been taken in each case; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) .(a) how often should each facility be inspected and (b) when last was each facility inspected?

NW 86E

REPLY:

Background

In 2008 the Department of Arts and Culture (DAC) established a Facilities Management Directorate to oversee the management and maintenance of all the buildings / sites that are occupied by DAC. The director had to do verification of all the buildings / sites that are used or held by DAC as there was no proper immovable asset register and the Department of Public Works (DPW), as the custodians of state buildings could not provide one.

One of the findings was that no official from the Public Entities and DPW could confirm whether the buildings / sites are compliant in terms of the Occupational Health and Safety Act. (OHSA).

The Key Account Manager DPW only confirmed that condition assessment which included OHSA of all government buildings has been a priority project for a long time but was never implemented due to funding constraints.

- (a) (i) No offices of DAC have certificates.

- (a)(ii) No sites of DAC have the certificate to confirm the compliance to OHSA.
- (b) No Public Entities
- (aa) Buildings / sites were not assessed to check whether they comply and which aspects of the Act they don't comply with
- (bb) Currently it cannot be confirmed which facilities fail to adhere to the Act
- (cc) n/a
- (dd) n/a
- (aaa) n/a
- (bbb) DAC has commissioned CSIR to do the condition assessment of all the buildings / sites that are used or held by DAC. The condition assessment includes the following:
 - i. Security
 - ii. OHSA
 - iii. Disability access
 - iv. Fire system
 - v. Structural aspects
 - vi. Mechanical services
 - vii. Electrical services
 - viii. Functionality etc.

The report of the condition assessment will include the status quo and interventions to be implemented in order to comply with the above mentioned legal requirements.

- (2) (a) According to the Act, the facility should be inspected once a year.
- (b) Facilities were not inspected