

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION 3371

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(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 42/2012)

Mrs PC Duncan (DA) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

1. Whether the Department has submitted their report to the Central Drug Authority for the 2011/12 annual report; if not, why not;
2. What are the reasons for the department's failure to attend meetings of the Central Drug Authority Board during the 2011/12 financial year?

Response:

1. The Department presented its 2011/2012 annual report on activities on Drug and Substance Use at the Central Drug Authority meeting held on 27 July 2012. In addition, the Department has also provided quarterly reports for the 2011/2012 Programme of Action that reports to the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Combating Alcohol and Drug Use. Both bodies are led by the Department of Social Development.
2. The Department has not failed to attend meetings of the Central Drug Authority (CDA). Table 1 below outlines the meetings called by the Central Drug Authority and attended by the Department of Basic Education during the 2011/2012 financial year. Between April and October 2011, the post of Programme Manager for Drug and Substance Use was vacant. In addition to the meetings of the CDA, the Department has attended meetings of the Technical Task Team on Combating Alcohol and Drug Use led by the Department of Social Development.

Table 1: Meetings of the Central Drug Authority attended by Department of Basic Education in 2011/2012

Date	Purpose of Meeting
15-17 March 2011	Biennial Summit on Substance Abuse (attended by 3 representatives of the Department of Basic Education, led by the Deputy Director General)
19 May 2011	Presentation of 2010/2011 Annual Report
5 & 6 July 2011	Consultative workshop on Substance Abuse Regulations
8 December 2011	Review of the National Drug Master Plan
23 March 2012	Drug Testing