

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION 1596

DATE OF PUBLICATION OF INTERNAL QUESTION PAPERS: 21/06/2013

(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 22/2013)

**Mrs A T Lovemore (DA) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

- (1) Whether she currently has any mechanisms in place to ensure that all new teachers comply with the Basic Competences of a Beginner Teacher (details furnished) before they are employed to teach in schools; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) what are the details of the interaction between her, her officials and their counterparts in the (a) Ministry and (b) Department of Higher Education and Training to ensure full compliance with the requirements referred to above?  
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**Responses:**

- (1) Whether she currently has any mechanisms in place to ensure that all new teachers comply with the Basic Competences of a Beginner Teacher (details furnished) before they are employed to reach in schools; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

The Policy on Minimum Requirements for Teacher Education Qualifications was gazetted in 2011 after an extensive consultation process with all teacher education stakeholders. Since then, institutions have been working to develop new qualification programmes that meet the requirements of the new policy. Once the design of programmes is complete, institutions have to submit the programmes to the Council on Higher Education for accreditation purposes as well as to a national joint DHET/DBE programme evaluation committee which reviews the programme for compliance with the policy. This includes examining and determining whether the programme addresses the development of the Basic Competences of a Beginner Teacher as contained in the policy. As a consequence of the requirement of meaningful programme design rather than technical compliance, and the processes of

accreditation and evaluation that the programmes must undergo, the first new university programmes aligned to the new policy will be delivered from 2014. The first graduates from the first year, full-time Advanced Diploma in Teaching (Post-Graduate Certificate in Education) are expected in 2015 and the graduates from the full-time cohort, four year Bachelor of Education Degree, will be in 2018.

- (2) What are the details of the interaction between her, her officials and their counterparts in the (a) Ministry and (b) Department of Higher Education and Training to ensure full compliance with the requirements referred to above?**

The DBE and DHET meet regularly in a number of formal structures to discuss the implementation of policies relating to teacher education and development. These forums include:

- a. National Teacher Education and Development Committee;
- b. Provincial Teacher Education and Development Committees;
- c. DBE/DHET Teacher Education and Development Bilaterals;
- d. DBE/DHET/NSFAS Funza Lushaka Bursary Advisory Committee; and
- e. DHET/DBE National Teacher Education Qualifications Evaluation Committee.