NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY
QUESTION 86

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Dr PWA Mulder (FF Plus) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

- With reference to her reply to question 1990 of 23 November 2007, how many

 (a) Afrikaans single- medium schools and (b) Afrikaans parallel- medium schools and (c) Afrikaans dual-medium schools were there at the beginning of (i) 1994 and (ii) 2009;
- 2. (a) How many Afrikaans dual –medium schools have changed to English-medium schools since 1994, (b) in which provinces these schools are and (c) why the Afrikaans dual-medium schools changed to English-medium schools? NW89E

REPLY:

Question 1 (a and b).

The reply to question 1990 of 23 November 2007 is unfortunately not available to the Ministry and could not be obtained in the short period of time.

The information used to answer the above questions is extracted from the Annual School Survey raw data, hence it is provisional.

The following definitions were applied in answering the above questions:

<u>Single-Medium School</u> – It is a school that uses one language of learning and teaching for **all learners** in a school, in all grades.

<u>Parallel-Medium School</u> – It is a school that offers two or more media of instruction in different classes in the same grade, for **all grades** of the school.

Schools that have single-medium according to phases or grades are not included.

Schools that are Afrikaans parallel-medium for one phase or for particular grades are not included.

Please note that we do not have information for 1994. The earliest date for which we have reliable information is 2002. The latest date we have the information for is 2008.

The response to questions 1(a) and (b) is contained in table 1 and table 2.

Table 1: Afrikaans Single Medium Schools in 2002 and in 2008

Province	Number of Afrikaans Single Medium Schools in 2002	Number of Afrikaans Single Medium Schools in 2008
EC	221	213
FS	113	92
GT	266	255
KZ	45	32
LP	39	46
MP	27	96
NC	289	248
NW	78	98
WC	736	687
Grand Total	1814	1767

Source: 2002 and 2008 Annual Survey for Ordinary schools

Table 1 above shows the number of single medium schools that used Afrikaans in 2002 and in 2008.

Table 2: Afrikaans Parallel (Afrikaans/English) Medium Schools in 2002 and in 2008

Province	Parallel Medium schools in 2002	Parallel Medium schools in 2008
EC	133	146
FS	92	87
GT	194	185
KZ	50	56
LP	50	41
MP	29	65
NC	58	70

NW	52	50
WC	379	373
Total	1037	1073

Source: 2002 and 2008 Annual Survey for Ordinary schools

Table 2 above shows the number of parallel-medium schools that used Afrikaans and English as media of instruction in 2002 and in 2008. These are schools that used English and Afrikaans as the LOLTs for all Grades of the schools.

Question 1(c)

Afrikaans dual-medium schools that changed to English medium schools since 2002.

The term "dual medium of instruction" refers to the employment of two languages as media of instruction, by means of alternation, in a situation in which the same learner receives tuition in both languages. A teacher switches from one medium of instruction to other repeating the same instructions on a 50:50 percent basis.

For a school to be classified as a dual-medium school, **all learners** of that school should be receiving the tuition through dual-medium of instruction. Such information is not collected from schools as it is very difficult to collect.

Question 2(a) and 2(b)

Table 3: Afrikaans Single Medium Schools that changed to Dual (Afrikaans/English) Medium Schools or to English Single Medium Schools since 2002.

We do not have any information on dual medium schools as indicated in response to Question 1(c). The information relating to parallel medium of instruction schools is provided in table 3.

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			Differences
EC	221	213	8
FS	113	92	21
GT	266	255	11
KZ	45	32	13
LP	39	46	-7
MP	27	96	-69
NC	289	248	41
NW	78	98	-20
WC	736	687	49
Total	1814	1767	47

Negative sign might mean that more Afrikaans schools were build since 2002 or some schools changed from parallel to single (Afrikaans) or the quality of 2002 data in some provinces was poor in 2002.

Question 2(c)

Reasons for change

- The communities in the area of some of the schools have changed. English is more
 popular as a medium of instruction. In response to the growing number of learners
 wanting English as LOLT, the schools have introduced English as the second
 medium of instruction.
- The declining number of Afrikaans speaking learners forces the schools to revert to parallel-medium (Afrikaans/English) schools.
- Some parents preferred that their children be taught in English because:
 - This could increase employment opportunities.
 - To prepare their children for Higher Education.
 - To prepare their children to be able to face challenges of modern life such as being able to complete banking forms, or any type of forms.