

NATIONAL NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION 277.

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277. . Ms D C Christians (Northern Cape: DA) to ask the Minister of Basic Education: to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

School-based assessment system

(1) With reference to the presentation by Umalusi to the Select Committee on 15 March 2023 (details furnished), (a) how will the school-based assessment system across all provincial education departments (PEDs) be conducted and (b) how will such an audit be reported on;

(2) (a) how will her department ensure that PEDs monitor and support the districts and (b) what are the details of provincial engagements that are linked to this in order to assist the committee during oversight?

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Response

1. (a) How will the school-based assessment system audit across all provincial education departments (PEDs) be conducted?

The Department of Basic Education (DBE) will conduct an audit of the SBA systems at provincial and district level, to establish the status of School Based Assessment (SBA) at provincial and district level. The audit will focus on the inputs that are necessary for a successful implementation of the SBA system. This audit will focus on both the General Education and Training (GET) and Further Education and Training (FET) bands; and will also look at systems for both the summative and formative forms of SBA. The systems audit will commence with three Provincial Education Departments (PEDs), i.e., Gauteng, Limpopo and Mpumalanga; and based on the findings from these three PEDS, the audit will be extended to the other six PEDs..

The DBE Audit team will comprise officials from both Examinations and Curriculum, representing both the GET and FET bands. Each PED will conduct a self-evaluation audit of the SBA, Practical Assessment Tasks (PATs) and Oral Assessment Systems at GET and FET levels at both the provincial and district levels. A Self Evaluation Instrument has been designed for completion by the PEDs. The DBE will then conduct the onsite audit of the SBA Systems at provincial and district levels. This on-site audit will extend over three days.

The findings of these audits will be used to identify the areas that need attention in each of the PEDs. An Improvement Plan will be drafted by each PEDs, and this will serve as the basis of the monitoring, moving forward.

(b) How will such an audit be reported on?

Preliminary feedback will be provided to the senior managers at provincial and district levels in both the GET and FET bands. The final written report will be submitted to the Head of Department (HoD), and Head of Examinations in each province, with clear recommendations.

2. (a) How will her department ensure that PEDs monitor and support the districts?

In 2022, the *Guidelines on the Quality Assurance of SBA* were availed to all provinces. These Guidelines provide clear directives relating to monitoring and moderation. The DBE will continue to support and monitor PEDs on the

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implementation of these guidelines. This is done through meetings of DBE with managers responsible for SBA in provinces; as well as the DBE conducting moderation of SBA in sampled subjects in June and November.

(b) What are the details of provincial engagements that are linked to this in order to assist the committee during oversight?

DBE will conduct quality assurance of SBA and moderation across PEDs in two phases.

- (i) Phase 1: 26 June -14 July 2023
- (ii) Phase 2: 2nd - 6th October 2023