

this Budget Vote. It is important to reflect on the facts of allocation adequacy, as we all know that it is totally impossible for any government in the whole world to report that it has unlimited resources for unlimited needs. Therefore, we are also faced with the challenge of limited resources for unlimited needs.

Comparisons can be made in this regard with countries like Brazil, whose military spending, according to a global organisation, is \$13,1 billion, and this is a country I compare South Africa with in correlation to defence capabilities, but of course the South African budget is justified. South Africa is expected to exercise with overseas counties in demonstration of its modernisation, sharp and high-tech capabilities to comply with the current challenges. So we need more funding.

This issue might be sensitive in a country that is in transition and still addressing social ills, created by the cruel apartheid system of unemployment and poverty, but at the same time, South Africa needs to rise to the occasion, as it is playing a critical role in peacekeeping in the continent. It therefore warrants that it acquires state-of-the-art tools that will assist the Defence Force to intervene with the desired speed.

The budget for the current financial year has not increased that much. Therefore, in my opinion, the R23,830 billion budget allocated to defence is not adequate to address the defence capabilities needed, and the amount that the Department of Defence has to come to terms within its strategic planning. It means that some programmes must be put in a slow gear until such time that there are alternatives to address the above.

At the current juncture, South Africa has only four Corvettes to patrol and train our soldiers. The underfunding in the navy will not disempower us from purchasing the fifth Corvette to augment our capability. Therefore, we should not be tempted, at the same time, to pre-empt the discussions on the R6,1

million prematurely, on the issue of submarines and the Corvettes in a negative manner.

The recently launched SAS *Amatola* has been commissioned with pride for peacekeeping, and will return very soon to South African waters.

As we have ushered in the transformation of the department, we should also maximise the participation of women to the extent that a 50/50 composition is achieved.

Regarding this, as is the case with local government, women also have a pivotal role to play in the force, and in the same breath, the youth must continue to occupy strategic positions to rejuvenate our force. The exit mechanism will not only bring about rejuvenation, but will also usher in modernisation and high technology and skills.

The R3,3 billion allocated to address issues of administration should also speak to the 2010 human resource strategy of the department, and this allocation should deal with maintenance of property and other related matters. The database of the department should be harmonised in such a way that issues of pensions, non-statutory funds and special pensions are fast-tracked.

The role that military veterans have played should not be underestimated. In my opinion, the reintegration process is not yet over. Therefore the importance of payouts for special pensions and the consideration of the ANC and NGC resolutions on this issue, of specifically the under-35s, is vital. Also, the integration of uMkhonto weSizwe, and the MK and Apla Military Veterans Association in the establishment of the SA Military Veterans Association should not only be an exercise that ends there, but should be able to address issues of pension, housing needs, medical needs and training of our veterans through projects.

A workforce with a high morale excels in its service if there is motivation. Therefore, there needs to be an improvement in the working conditions of our forces, including

tant epoch, as we are celebrating the anniversary and the centenary of the Bambatha Rebellion, the 50th anniversary of the Women's March, and the 30th anniversary of the June 16 uprising.

As we celebrate the army days in our country, we also need to be patriotic to the gallant fighters of our revolution, and put the heroes of our people on the map. The strategic objective of the ANC-led government is that of promoting peace, security and stability in the region, and on the African continent as a whole. We need to improve and maintain our defence capabilities at all times, and we will achieve this.

This month we celebrated Human Rights Day, which is an important day in our South African calendar. As the Freedom Charter outlines, "All shall enjoy equal human rights", and "There shall be peace and stability and friendship".

The people of Walmanstahl are happy today that they have successfully claimed and battled to get their land back, and thanks go to the portfolio committee in helping them to achieve this. [Applause.]

We have to build a peaceful and stable region, and a continent that is prosperous, for the growth of the African economy, and for the betterment of the lives of our people. The resolutions at the ANC's Stellenbosch Congress on peace and stability emphasise the engagement of African challenges, and focus on peacekeeping missions in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Sudan and lately, the Comoros, and on negotiating with the World Trade Organisation, the WTO, to help resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Therefore, the state of preparedness of the South African troops and the SADC standby force is of crucial importance to attain this. There is also a need to engage Iran on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, and the usage of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes.

It will also be important when South Africa spearheads peacekeeping operations to make sure that it concentrates on the issue of the Western Sahara, and the struggle for self-determination of the Saharawi people against occupation by Morocco.

As the Minister might have already elaborated in his speech, South Africa operated in Burundi and the DRC. Burundi successfully held its elections last year, and the Burundi people are thankful for the interventions made by the South African government. In the same vein, the DRC will hold their elections in June this year.

As part of the New Partnership for Africa's Development Programme, South Africa participated in the African Peer Review Mechanism, a mechanism that encourages self-assessment of countries, and this assessment not only focuses on how government performs, but also deals with the strengthening of the African Union and forging peace in the continent. This performance audit, if adopted by all African countries, will bear more fruit.

There is also a need for the peace and stability cluster of Parliament to participate in the Pan-African Parliament. I hope that this will be taken into account. South Africa has linked the issue of peace and stability to poverty eradication—as the Minister has indicated—housing provision and food security through social cohesion programmes, and issues of skills development for the youth, and today is a typical example thereof.

The ANC government, through the Military Skills Development System, the MSDS, is training young people in the different occupations, be it in the army, the navy, or the air force, and so these skills projects will be a guarantee for employment but, at the same time, we still need to train more youth to deal with unemployment.

Having presented this overview, one is obliged to zoom in on the issues that relate to

Ms T V TOBIAS: The ANC supports the budget. Thank you. [Applause.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr K O Bapela): We do not have the luxury of time today, unfortunately. There is an international event that is going to take place later today, so please let us respect time allocations.

Moulana M R SAYEDALI-SHAH: Hon Chairperson, hon Ministers, members of this House, the people of South Africa do not deserve a Defence Force that is, by the government's own admission, not combat-ready. At present, the people of South Africa are confronted with a Defence Force that is unable to properly fulfil its constitutional obligations or have the required capacity to play an even greater role in helping to bring about peace on the African continent.

What the people of South Africa deserve instead is a professional and well-resourced Defence Force that is able to carry out its duties in an efficient and cost-effective manner, as well as a Defence Force that is able to make a positive contribution to the security of not only the Republic, but also the region as a whole. Sadly, it appears that unless there is an urgent shift in focus by the management of the SANDF, this will not become a reality any time soon.

Only the most partisan of observers could fail to admit that there is a crisis in the SANDF. The Minister of Defence himself has admitted that the SANDF is struggling to maintain even its core capability. The Minister has admitted, for example, that maintenance programmes . . . [Interjections.] Read the briefing documents of the Department of Defence. The Minister has admitted, for example, that maintenance programmes are at their lowest levels ever, that military hospitals are in need of extensive renovation, and that infrastructure in general is in a perilous state.

The decline in infrastructure is now so dire that in the air force, for example, the

Department of Defence has admitted that pilots are in constant danger owing to a failure to keep all systems in the required technical condition.

This dismal state of affairs is compounded by reports which have indicated that the SANDF can no longer be regarded as a fighting force. This is due to the fact that 10 000 . . . [Interjections.] No, this is what the department tells us. Read the reports, my friend. [Interjections.] This is due to the fact that 10 711 officers are too sick to be deployed, with as few as 5% of some battalions able to be deployed owing to ill health. The reality is that the SANDF is indeed in a perilous state, both in terms of its equipment levels and in terms of the numbers of battle-ready personnel.

When it is considered that virtually all battalions are unfit for deployment and that all available fit soldiers are deployed in foreign peacekeeping missions, then there is simply no way that the SANDF can be viewed as capable of defending the territorial integrity of the Republic.

The implication is that the SANDF is finding it extremely difficult to fulfil both its primary constitutional duty and its ability to contribute to its ever-increasing peacekeeping duties on the continent, which are in support of our Nepad initiative.

Instead of honestly, and I repeat, honestly, confronting this crisis, it appears that the political leadership of the SANDF is intent on burying its head in the sand. To make matters worse, it appears that they are determined to compound the problem by placing an even greater burden on the SANDF. In this context, it is extraordinary indeed that there is a ministerial directive in terms of which the possible acquisition of a fifth Corvette is being contemplated now.

The DA wishes to place on record our grave concerns about such an acquisition, if it is done. It is unbelievable that this acquisition is even being considered, given the enor-

medical facilities like military hospitals, obsolete stock should also be disposed of, and Armscor should design a disposable plan.

South Africa, like any other country, can be vulnerable to mercenary activities, and as we have seen with the war in Iraq, this has invited in our ranks people who saw an economic opportunity. They comprise national security companies in our country, and therefore, we need to tighten up the law in relation to the role played by South African security companies who are stationed in either Iraq or Cote d'Ivoire.

Therefore, Parliament will fast-track the prohibition of mercenary activities in areas of armed conflict, and the legislation will close gaps which were created by the Regulation of Foreign Military Assistance Act.

The restructuring of public enterprises and tasks given on issues of reclassification should harmonise the role that Denel and Armscor should play, and these entities of the Department of Defence should meet and the respective departments should fast-track the process.

As part of the Accelerated Shared Growth Initiative for South Africa, the defence industry must supply machinery and other tools, and must also reflect the demographics of our transformation agenda, and broad-based black economic empowerment and should also reflect the demographics of women. The department must therefore engender the budget to address this capacity constraint.

We should also bear in mind that efficiency is a procedure necessary to limit weaknesses to deliver. Therefore, the role that the Defence Force needs to play in community projects is important. We will be reflecting on social responsibility, as houses can be built by the army, and also in dealing with disaster management programmes.

As the MSDS is the key priority of the

Department of Defence, the full operation of the Didata Seta is of the utmost importance.

As I said before, we as Parliament, through the Portfolio Committee on Defence, identified the achievements and challenges of the Department of Defence. We have been playing an active role in maintaining oversight over the department in executing its mandate and managing its limited budget, as there are constitutional provisions on oversight.

Oversight can also be perceived positively or in a negative manner, depending on the angle from which it is viewed. Therefore, it is the role of this committee to ensure that there is mitigation action taken to address risks that might hamper the process of delivery.

This oversight tool, in this case in point, has played a positive role on the issue of separation of powers, and it is clearly understood by the committee. The committee rose above petty politicking when it addressed issues of national importance, and worked as a collective as a multiparty committee of the House.

Today, as we said earlier, the community of Walmanstahl will be proud of this committee for its work on the issues of the land claims. This committee takes this opportunity to thank the former chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Defence, Professor Kader Asmal, for the work he had done, together with the committee, to facilitate this process.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr K O Bapela): Hon member, your time has expired.

Ms T V TOBIAS: Chairperson, the policy of the ANC on peace and stability has seen the light today, and the Freedom Charter says "There shall be peace and friendship".

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr K O Bapela): Hon member, your time has expired.

health services receive 101 million patient visits a year; and HIV treatment programmes are in place at 192 health facilities.

The SA National Defence Force recognises the fact that HIV and Aids pose a serious threat to human society, and it is a national challenge, which seriously affects standards and combat-readiness to a certain extent.

The SA Military Health Service, as a caring arm of the SA National Defence Force, has introduced the following programmes to address this pressing challenge within its ranks—which will, of course, prove wrong what the hon Shah said. These programmes are Masibambisane, which means “let’s work together”, and Phidisa, which is a Sesotho word for “make better or save lives”.

The SA Military Health Service is part of the national roll-out of the antiretroviral treatment of Aids. Enrolment and treatment medication is determined by the protocol supplied by the national Department of Health. Each military site involved in the roll-out will be identical to the national Department of Health, in order to ensure total community support at the same time.

In addition, the SAMHS has an outreach programme called Project Phidisa, which provides antiretroviral treatment to any member or registered dependent in the catchment area of six research sites. Enrolment in the study is determined by the research protocol; and members who do not qualify for antiretroviral treatment are enrolled in a non-antiretroviral research arm.

The SA Military Health Service, being the health care arm of the Defence Force, followed suit and planned accordingly. It was a fact in 2004 that the SAMHS would most likely not obtain additional funding for this purpose. This has now been rectified through the R26 million that has been budgeted for it and, therefore, it is reflected in the overall plan of the Department of Health.

The Department of Defence’s Masibambane project addressed issues of prevention and promotion of efforts against HIV and Aids for the past years. Master trainers established a hierarchy of knowledge to the level of peer educators throughout the organisation. The knowledge base of the members in the organisation regarding HIV and Aids improved over time, and was confirmed by two annual knowledge, attitude and practice studies over the past two years.

The biggest frustration remains the lack of behavioural change towards reduction in the prevalence of the disease. The Masibambane programme focussed on the following: education for all members in the Department of Defence, with respect to HIV and Aids and the prevention thereof; training of a critical mass of Department of Defence members to the level of peer educators for every military unit. Awareness programmes are ongoing, to ensure that everybody is fully in the picture.

The first accredited sites to roll out these ARVs will start as from 1 April 2006, tomorrow, and there are six sites of Phidisa. The military sites are similar to those of the national Department of Health. The ARV treatment programmes will roll out in the Department of Defence where soldiers have been acknowledged as a strategic issue. The SAMHS would therefore want to roll out in four-month intervals during this very same financial year. Eventually, the ARV treatment must be sustainable and must provide equity in treatment throughout the organisation.

Poverty reduction, education and self-actualisation must form part of life skills development towards self-employment and high productivity. Those who are HIV-negative must be an important focus group and should remain negative. The follow-up patients, with respect to adherence to drug regimens, must be a high priority. The following methods have proven to work: information technology, buddy support and pill counts.

mous problems the navy is already experiencing with regard to the integration of the four Corvettes which have already been purchased under the strategic defence package programme. Surely, the acquisition of a fifth Corvette will not only divert funds from other critical operational areas, but also serve to compound the numerous problems facing the navy? As it is, the navy has not met its 2004 to 2005 target in terms of sea hours, and the further 15% reduction in the budget for maritime training capability will only deepen this problem.

Furthermore, other problems such as the availability and development of personnel for the new equipment, the lack of spares and support contracts for the existing Corvettes, and the deterioration in existing infrastructure have yet to be addressed.

We therefore urge the hon Minister to give due consideration to this matter and not to exercise the option of purchasing the fifth Corvette. It must be remembered that there exists no obligation to acquire a fifth Corvette under the initial contract, but rather only an option that can be exercised if the government chooses to do so, and I hope they do not.

It is clear that the government has not got its priorities straight. All too often it seems that instead of tackling the root causes of the crisis that exists within the SANDF, the government is instead intent on acquiring expensive weaponry which we cannot afford and for which we certainly do not, as of yet, have the available skills to operate and sustain.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to salute the many fine men and women in uniform who are seated in this House this morning, who serve this country with distinction and with great sacrifice. The fact that the SANDF is able to function . . .

An HON MEMBER: That's a contradiction.

Moulana M R SAYEDALI-SHAH: That's not a contradiction. The fact . . . [Interjec-

tions.] Why? If I agree to the five Corvettes then it means that I support the Defence Force. Is that what you want? The fact . . .

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member, please continue with your speech.

Moulana M R SAYEDALI-SHAH: All right. The fact . . . [Interjections.] You don't like listening to the truth. Yes, that is the problem.

The fact that the SANDF is able to function, despite the enormous constraints it faces, is ultimately a tribute to the tenacity of these soldiers and officials. It is high time that their efforts were rewarded with a focused plan, which aims to deal with the core problems that continue to beset the SANDF so that they are able to serve their country in a Defence Force that we can all be proud of. Until there is evidence of such a plan, the DA will continue to oppose the Defence budget. I thank you. [Applause.]

Mr G P MNGOMEZULU: Madam Deputy Speaker, hon Minister of Defence, hon Deputy Minister of Defence, hon members, comrades and compatriots, three days before this Budget Vote, as Whip of the defence committee, I personally spoke to the hon Shah. He confided to me that his party, the DA, expected him to oppose this Budget Vote despite what he knew about what had happened.

He knows the truth and, for that matter, we went to the Democratic Republic of Congo with him. The UN authorities praised the role that the SA National Defence Force is playing, which he also agreed to. Now the reason why he is contradicting himself in front of this august House is because he is echoing his master's voice. [Applause.]

In his state of the nation address in February this year, the President stated that, *inter alia*, primary health has been expanded since 1994; more than 1 300 clinics have been built or upgraded and 2 300 have new equipment installed; childhood immunisation programmes have been extended; our

al's report. In that report there were internal control weaknesses resulting in not all losses and damages being reported to the department. In that report we found that there is no rectification of weaknesses over internal control of machinery and equipment. In that report we find discrepancies between the stock registered and the actual stock on hand, as well as poor storage facilities. There is defective internal control around the security and administration of weapons. The Secretary of Defence should therefore take note of what the Auditor-General is saying and make sure that these discrepancies are corrected. If they are not corrected, the Secretary of Defence will not be doing his job in the manner it is supposed to be done.

The policy directives set by the Minister of Defence appear in all the documentation presented to the portfolio committee. Some of these policy directives are not followed. That begs the question: Who directs the department, if the political policies and political directives are not followed? Who then directs the department? We all believe that the people who sit behind the desks should direct the department and the political head who knows about the politics of the country does not direct that. The Minister's direction should be taken into account, whenever we are dealing with the budget.

Lastly, I want to urge the Members of Parliament, that there are statements that we can talk about when we are in the committee and some that we can express in this House. Such statements should take into account that we are not talking about ourselves. We are talking about the people, the country and other people, some of whom like us and some of whom don't like us. [Applause.]

We must not be seen as if we are saying: We are the weakest country in the world. It is very important on humanitarian grounds that when we talk about the budget, we should include the people who live in the country. As a member of the IFP I urge members to make sure that they grow up when they debate a matter such as this. [Applause.]

Ms M L MATSEMELA: Deputy Speaker, hon Minister of Defence, hon members, all dignitaries present . . .

. . . basa ba rona ba ba kgabileng ka mebala ya rona ya sesole sa kgololosego . . . [. . . our youth dressed up in our democratic military colours . . .]

. . . the prescripts of the Constitution in Chapter 11, section 200, are clear and unambiguous about the role of the SANDF in our democracy. It says, inter alia, that the defence force must be structured and managed as a disciplined military force. Secondly, the primary objective of the defence force is to defend and protect the Republic, its territorial integrity and its people in accordance with the Constitution and the principles of international law regulating the use of force.

At its 51st national conference in Stellenbosch, the ANC reiterated its resolve for a speedy transformation of the state machinery and the SANDF is key to this project. The main aim of the Department of Defence's human resource strategy 2010 is to ensure that the right quantities and quality of human resources are available in the right places timeously and that they are effectively, efficiently and economically managed and administered.

The strategic goals of the human resource strategy are to rejuvenate the SANDF's human resources composition with young, fit and healthy members who fulfil operational utilitarian needs, achieve an affordable HR composition, adequately resource and utilise the regular and the reserve force, replace the current SANDF system with a new service that will improve human resource service delivery and retain the required operational and functional expertise.

The integration of the former statutory and non-statutory forces, which were once polarised, is a powerful illustration of the government's commitment to national reconciliation, unity and transformation. To be

In conclusion, there is confidence that much more will be achieved in the SAMHS over the months to follow. Equality upholds the reputation of the SAMHS as health service providers, leading to trust and alignment in expectation and effort.

Clear guidelines given through policy formulation are a starting point for an effective strategic direction process. Planning, execution and monitoring will ensure the desired outputs and outcome towards a healthy military community, not only to make the military health service acceptable but also proactive and caring.

The ANC, as a steel-tempered political party and organisation, with a tried and tested leadership, declares its unequivocal and unwavering support for Vote 21. I thank you. [Applause.]

Mr V B NDLOVU: Madam Deputy Speaker, hon Ministers, colleagues, we would like to welcome the newly recruited students of the army who are present in this debate. We want to put it on record that their recruitment was transparent, but we want it to be even more transparent so that the medium to communicate the detail of recruitment should be accessible to as large an audience as possible to give everyone a chance to access employment within the SANDF, especially people who reside in the rural areas. We must also get the chance to be members of the army.

Last year the portfolio committee visited the military units in the Thaba Tshwane area to ascertain the state of the facilities and maintenance thereof. Some of the findings of the committee were: the appalling state of accommodation of nurses, the living conditions of learners in some quarters are not fit for human occupation and severely impede the education and training of learners and foreign learners are accommodated in private guesthouses due to the bad state of living quarters to save the image of the party. The budgeted items of this session should take that into account.

With regard to the deployment of soldiers abroad, we don't believe that our soldiers stationed abroad on peace missions are getting a fair deal with regard to their living conditions and allowances. The manner in which their allowances get worked out should be reviewed. Our soldiers are used to a certain standard of living and should be remunerated accordingly. Therefore the people negotiating the memorandum of understanding should negotiate it in such a manner that it satisfies the people who are on the ground and not the people in the offices. [Applause.]

It was reported last year, Chairperson, that the South African military operation in the DRC is responsible for almost a third of sexual complaints against the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the country. We want to commend the steps taken by the leadership in disciplining those people who were involved and who shamed our members with their behaviour.

How does HIV/Aids affect the SANDF? The numbers have been thrown around, but I, Velaphi Ndlovu of the IFP, say that the roll-out of ARVs should be done in a manner that all services are involved and should be done in a manner that would satisfy everybody. It should be done in manner that all of the R20 million allocated for it should be used. There must be no rollover, whatsoever.

With regard to the exit policy, we as members of the portfolio committee have a problem with it. We still maintain that the position is not the same for statutory members as it is for non-statutory members. At this stage we are still talking about non-statutory members and statutory members, because of the agreement that is the one used by the department. I therefore request that the department and the leadership of the department, especially the army, should work out proper contracts for people. Especially the non-statutory members should not find themselves fired unknowingly.

Last year we dealt with the Auditor-Gener-

readiness and that the necessary investments in equipment and personnel are made. An example of an unforeseen demand is the current deployment of defence force members in external peace support missions. We currently have a presence in the DRC, Côte d'Ivoire, Burundi, Sudan and, to a lesser extent, in Liberia and the Horn of Africa, which now exceeds the defence review estimates by 300%. As the AU grows from strength to strength, we can only expect that the peacekeeping demands on our defence force will increase.

Reports regarding discipline issues concerning some of our soldiers deployed in these missions abroad indicate problems with morale, troop management and preparedness. Whilst individuals must be held accountable for their behaviour, the high rate of such incidents must reflect on the defence force's decision-makers.

Looking at the budget, the question arises: How much are we actually investing in people? Here we are advocating equitable budget balances between the two extremes, that is, sophisticated weaponry and ordinary soldiers. The UDM supports the Budget Vote. [Time expired.] [Applause.]

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Madam Deputy Speaker, hon Members of Parliament, Ministers and Deputy Ministers, Secretary for Defence, Chief of the SA National Defence Force, chiefs of services, distinguished guests, friends and comrades, I take this opportunity to greet you and those in the gallery—the young deserving South Africans we have recruited and that are undergoing training in terms of our training programme, the Military Skills Development System.

They are young people—50 from the South African army members, 50 from the South African navy members, 50 from the air force members, and 50 from the SA Military Health Service members. There are also members of our Siyandiza project.

This morning the Minister of Defence, the hon Mosiuoa Lekota, set the tone for the 2006 Department of Defence Budget Vote, with a clear and unequivocal message that the SA National Defence Force continues to be ready and fully prepared to carry out its constitutional mandate to defend all the people, the territorial integrity and the democracy of the Republic of South Africa.

I want to say to Shah again, because he does not listen . . .

Ms D KOHLER-BARNARD: The hon Shah.

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: The hon Shah. There is no crisis in the SANDF. [Applause.] It is highly irresponsible to suggest that there is a crisis and that we cannot do our core business. It is a pity that he reads the same speech in every Budget Vote. [Interjections.]

The Minister went further to suggest that the department and the people of South Africa need to re-establish consensus on the current terms of reference of the concept of the state of readiness in the context of government direction and foreign policy in particular. In this regard, a key consideration for the Department of Defence is the extent to which we audit our performance with regard to human resource management.

Thus, the transformation agenda of the Department of Defence, as it relates to representivity, gender equality, improved management and the principles of Batho Pele, remains central to the achievement of any of the department's long-term objectives for sustained military preparedness.

A key initiative to sustain the department's state of readiness in the context of people-centred transformation in the department is the human resource 2010 strategy. The aim of HR 2010 is to ensure that the department has the most effective, efficient and economical human resource composition of

able to achieve this, the department needs the funding to retain, reorientate and provide bridging and supplementary programmes for these forces.

The aforementioned perspective derives from our Constitution. The overarching goal is to establish a new institution that is professionally efficient, effective and broadly representative. The postapartheid era saw the positioning of women on a pedestal of equality, human dignity and freedom. This programme is not an event but a patient, steadfast and determined goal of our armed forces.

Since 1994 the department was seen as a key vehicle for transforming unequal relationships in the broader society, concerned that gender equity should continue to define the success our armed forces have achieved in our democratic society.

In the SANDF the substantive progress continues towards enhancing female representivity by means of military skills development recruits. Currently 30% of MSDS members are women. This is the result of focused marketing and recruitment drives that will continue apace into the future. As the size of the MSDS intakes expands, the number of women per intake will also increase.

Tshwarang jalo bomme gone mosadi mooka o nya le mariga. [Keep it up women, because a woman always has a plan no matter how difficult the situation might be.]

A woman is seasonal. The representivity of women in all domains of the department is becoming more and more pronounced with women being found in the combat sections of the army, the air forces and the navy. The presence of women actively involved in our armed forces was illustrated during Exercise Seboka, conducted at the army combat training centre at Lohatla in 2005.

Despite men making up the gender majority in the department, women occupy many senior positions too. Within the SANDF's

regular force there are 13 female brigadiers general. There are also 796 female sergeant majors or warrant officers. The department's mainstreaming project is currently underway and will result in more opportunities opening up for women in the department.

Representivity refers to the racial and gender composition of the army and to the fair integration and equitable representation of the constituent integration forces in all ranks.

The way we deal with the past must carry us into the future, a future that offers something better for everyone indeed, with the seeds of a prosperous society being planted today. Hence today is better than yesterday and tomorrow will be better than today.

The department's affirmative action plan and various career management initiatives are continuously implemented to address the challenges of our divided past in which Africans in particular and blacks in general have not as yet reached the critical levels of seniority and specialised knowledge and skills in the military. The composition of the MSDS intakes is indicative of the department's intent in this regard. [Time expired.] [Applause.]

Mr G T MADIKIZA: Madam Deputy Speaker, hon Minister and Deputy Minister and hon members, the Department of Defence is in the enviable position that the regional security situation is stable and South Africa is at peace with its neighbours. We are not faced with any significant foreseeable threats against the sovereignty of our state. Nevertheless, force readiness is a constant requirement. It is a demand placed upon any defence force to be ever vigilant and to look windward as members of the navy might say. The foreseeable future might look peaceful, but we must be able to address unforeseeable threats and demands should they arise.

It is therefore imperative that our defence force, during this period of peace, is kept in

MEM were 500, and the department achieved 553. The target for the 2006-07 financial year stands at 750, and the department already has 209, with a target range of 700 to 1 000. On the cumulative total of 762, there are clear indications that those taking the MEM are primarily from the key target areas of concern with regard to representivity and career stagnation.

Gender equality is still a major issue, especially as it relates to progression to middle and senior management. In this regard, it is clear that in the services and divisions of the SANDF, the attainment of a 30% threshold recruitment of women through the MSDS has been achieved all round. However, the progression of a significant number of women to specialised fields and higher ranks remains a challenge.

At the strategic level the Department of Defence has complied with the government requirement for a gender forum and gender focal point budget for gender programmes, developed clear prescripts for 50:50 representation of women in all decision-making bodies, developed a departmental gender-mainstreaming strategy, and developed policies on the elimination of sexual harassment and on the advancement of women.

However, whether at service level or as an integrated department, the department as a whole has not yet achieved any significant progression with the representation of women in middle and senior management. This is the area the department is looking at very seriously.

The health status of the SANDF is a key determinant of our combat and deployment capabilities. The SA Military Health Service has identified the HIV and Aids pandemic as a potential force preparation risk and continues to prepare appropriately for the prevention, management and treatment of this disease. In this regard, the SAMHS Masibambisane awareness prevention campaign continues unabated.

The treatment focus continues through Project Phidisa, a joint initiative between the SAMHS and the United States National Institute of Health, seeking to research the efficacy of antiretrovirals in a military environment and their impact on combat-readiness. Further, the department's pending alignment with the Department of Health's antiretroviral roll-out and the Khomanani campaign will further boost our capacity for treatment.

Support for the future and welfare of military veterans is a priority of the Department of Defence. In June 2005 the National Skills Fund and the defence and trade education and training authority signed a memorandum of understanding to ensure support for the training and upskilling of military veterans.

Since then we have embarked on the issuing of identity cards for registered military veterans, whilst implementing the MOU which has now yielded approximately 1 276 jobs across the country in fields such as private security, driver training, metro policing, traffic wardens and in the construction industry. There are many more jobs and skills training opportunities in the pipeline.

The central challenge to progress with the implementation of military veterans' benefits, however, is fragmentation. In 2003 we launched the SA Military Veterans Association with the understanding and hope that there would be agreement on a single nodal point for all issues relating to veterans. The current Military Veterans' Affairs Act, unfortunately, provides for this fragmentation of the military veterans' association, which is against the spirit of a single national defence force and a united nonracial country. [Interjections.]

On a practical level fragmentation also works against the proper co-ordination and administration of military veterans' issues, as there are often blurred lines of responsibility and authority. The Department of Defence, as one of a number of role-players

both uniformed and civilian members to deliver on our mandate and support for government.

Further, the Department of Defence core service system, introduced in January 2005 as the first step for Military Skills Development System recruits to be taken into regular forces, currently stands at 5 804, a significant increase of 4 864 as compared to 940 members in 2005.

Another integral part of the MSDS initiative is the placement of qualified recruits. This year two major milestones were achieved. Firstly, the joint operations division has, for the first time, deployed 299 MSDS trained members in operations outside the country. Secondly, in November 2006 the SA Army will place 200 MSDS members in full-time employment in four private companies, while securing 30 days per annum for each of them for reserve force duty.

The service continues to open doors to young women recruits in highly specialised skills areas. In this regard, the SA Navy has recently appointed three women officers commanding to the SA Navy combat platforms, including an appointment to a navy fast-attack craft, the *SAS Makhanda*. [Applause.]

The acquisition of the strategic defence packages has opened new doors for further transformation of the Department of Defence. In this regard, 20 officers have had new opportunities for submarine training in India and Germany. Consequently, the SA Navy will shortly have two qualified women on the Type 209 submarines, a first in Africa. [Applause.]

Similarly, the SA Air Force will qualify 12 women pilots by the end of 2007. Six of them are black and three have so far been earmarked for the combat line via the new Hawk lead-in fighter trainers. A further 13 women, six black and seven white, have been identified for training as navigators and engineers in 2007. [Applause.]

It is important to note these achievements against the backdrop of ongoing challenges in the Department of Defence as a whole. I say challenges, Shah, and not crisis because you've got a crisis in your head. [Laughter.] [Interjections.]

The main challenge to the MSDS rejuvenation of the SANDF, however, is to ensure a balance in the inflow of recruits with the outflow of departmental personnel in excess of requirements. [Interjections.] Will you please keep quiet, old man? Please! [Interjections.]

Moulana M R SAYEDALI-SHAH: You're talking about the SDPs. How many people make money out of them?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members! Hon Deputy Minister, please continue with your speech.

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: With this in mind, the mobility exit mechanism, a voluntary severance package for uniformed members of the SA National Defence Force, was introduced in July 2005 as a tool to facilitate the rightsizing of the department's human resource composition, although a process of realistic succession planning was guarding against an exodus of scarce skills and special knowledge.

For a new initiative, the department is quite pleased with the initial indications that the mobility exit mechanism is, albeit slowly, delivering on its objectives by creating space for rejuvenation, whilst addressing the challenges of how to deal with stagnation and the transformation agenda for representivity in areas targeted by the department.

The challenge for the department has been to at least sustain and then increase the numbers of people taking the MEM so as to open further opportunities for a greater number of young, deployable and employable members.

Progress in this regard so far has been quite encouraging. The 2005-06 targets for the

khetha ibala. Ngakho-ke umbutho wethu wezokuvikela uyawahlonipha amalungelo abantu nesizwe jikelele. Ngizonikeza isibonelo esiphilayo sokubuyiselwa komhlaba kubantu. Ngethemba ukuthi nisakhumbula ukuthi ezinyangeni ezimbalwa ezedlule ikomidi lezombutho wokuvikela liye lanibikela nge-Wallmansthal loco inspection report ngesikhathi livakashele ukuyobheka kuqhubeka kanjani.

Lo mbiko uchaza ngokuthathwa komhlaba wabantu ababehlala kuwo ngendlov'iyangena obizwa ngokuthi yi-Wallmansthal eduze naseTshwane. Ukubuyiselwa kwalo mhlaba ongama-hectra angama-400 eMnyangweni wezoLimo nezoMhlaba ukuze ubuyiselwe kubantu base-Wallmansthal kuyinqubekela phambili futhi kuyisibonelo esihle sokuhlonipha amalungelo abantu yilo mbuso wethu kaKhongolose.

Manje indaba isiphakathi koMnyango yezeMisebenzi yoMphakathi kanye nowezoLimo nezoMhlaba. Ngizama ukunikhumbuza ukuthi lo mhlaba wathathwa ngo-1954 kwathi ingxenye yokugcina yathathwa ngo 1974, nakuba kukhona izinkinga kodwa siyabonisa ukuthi lo mbuso kaKhongolose uzimisele ukuthi ukhulule abantu bakithi futhi ubuyise nesithunzi sabo. *(Translation of isiZulu paragraphs follows.)*

[... good morning brothers and sisters! In delivering my speech today, I will try to remind you about human rights. I would like us to think back to 21 March 1960 in Sharpeville where our brothers and sisters were killed and injured at the hands of the oppressive apartheid regime.

I am saying this because today is known as Human Rights Day. It is for this reason we are saying that the month of March is the month of human rights for all people, irrespective of colour. The Department of Defence respects the rights of people and the whole nation. I will give the example of land redistribution. I hope you still recall that a few months ago, the Defence Force committee gave you feedback about the Wallmans-

thal in loco inspection report where they visited to check the progress.

This report talks about Wallmansthal near Tshwane where the land was forcefully taken from people. Returning 400 hectares of land to the Department of Agriculture and Land Affairs so that it could be redistributed to the people of Wallmansthal is good progress and is a good example of respecting human rights by the government of the ANC.

The issue is now between the Department of Public Works and the Department of Agriculture and Land Affairs. This land was taken in 1954 and the last portion was taken in 1974. Although there are some problems, it demonstrates that the government of the ANC is prepared to free people and bring back their dignity.]

Secondly, the budget for the Department of Defence empowers our Defence Force to adhere to the values of democracy by practising democratic rules of engagement, such as respect for human dignity, patriotism, integrity, leadership and accountability. They observe the Geneva Convention and are further guided by our Constitution, that of the OAU and the UN Protocols. But how does the Department of Defence do this?

This question leads me to another subtopic, namely the Military Skills Development System. In terms of this programme and the annual call-up, young matriculants of all races are invited to enlist with the SANDF. The MSDS is a military programme earmarked to inject young blood into our Defence Force, as its members gradually get older.

Issues of demographic representation are a constitutional imperative for all departments. It is at this entry point that these young men and women get moulded and trained as members of the SA National Defence Force in various forms, be it the navy, the air force, the army, intelligence, military health and so on and so forth. As a

with regard to military veterans' affairs, will continue to canvas the various stakeholders on the benefits of a unitary approach.

It is imperative, however, for me to stress that the issues relating to NSF and special pensions are the responsibility of the Department of Finance. The role of the Department of Defence in this regard is that of a facilitator.

The military justice system also remains a challenge for us. As already alluded to in our last Budget Vote, a ministerial task team was appointed to look into the transformation of this system. The task team recommended significant changes with constitutional implications. The implementation of these recommendations, however, requires that the Act would have to be revised. For now, we are aiming to have a new bid in place shortly. By next year the new Act would have been promulgated.

In conclusion, I wish to reiterate that the people-centred approach of the Department of Defence is aimed at ensuring that we have the requisite skills base, discipline, motivation and direction to continue to deliver our service to government and the people of South Africa. I thank you. [Applause.]

Mr H B CUPIDO: Deputy Speaker, hon Minister, the ACDP is of the opinion that this budget represents a considerable improvement in the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework. The ACDP particularly welcomes the increased allocation for the SA Army and for the expansion of the antiretroviral roll-out programme. Not giving priority attention to combating HIV and Aids would be like an army waging war against itself.

The priority given to the landward defence programme indicates a willingness to address the shortcomings within the SA Army. With the navy and the air force having benefited from an influx of new equipment, the additional funds for the army hold

positive implications for much-needed modernisation within the SA Army.

By making provision for general upliftment in terms of infrastructure, equipment and personnel, the Defence budget makes a valuable contribution to improving state capacity and strengthening the infrastructure projects. The ACDP acknowledges that these developments provide a strong foundation for second economy participation.

Areas of concern include the delay in the redrafting of the White Paper on Defence—the hon Minister referred to this earlier in his speech—and what is described as manufacturing delays in the operational launch of the Rooivalk helicopter.

In the 2005 budget, R65 million was set aside for the disposal of obsolete ammunition in accordance with environmental concerns, thus there is a need for further clarity with regard to the progress in this endeavour.

The ACDP salutes the South African forces for the duties they perform nationally and on the African continent, and therefore we will support this budget. Thank you. [Applause.]

Mr S B NTULI: Madam Deputy Speaker, Ministers and Deputy Ministers present, Secretary for Defence Mr Masilela, the Chief of the SA National Defence Force Gen Ngwenya, our guests in the gallery, hon members, ladies and gentlemen...

... bafowethu nodadewethu, sanibonani! Ukwethula inkulumo yami namuhla, ngizozama ukuthi sikhumbuzane kancane ngamalungelo abantu. Ngicela ukuba kesithi ukubuyisela imiqondo yethu emuva kumhla ka-21 Mashi 1960 e-Sharpeville lapho kwafa khona futhi kwalimala odadewethu nabafowethu ezandleni zombuso wobandlululo nencindezelo.

Lokhu phela ngikusho ngenxa yokuba namuhla lolu suku selwaziwa ngokuthi uSuku lwamaLungelo, yingakho sithi inyanga kaMashi yinyanga yamalungelo abantu bonke jikelele ngaphandle koku-

het dat die Weermag staan net in as dit 'n amptelike reis is. Hierdie was nie 'n amptelike reis nie. My vraag aan die agb Minister vanmôre is: wat het u, Minister, gedoen om dit te voorkom en watter stappe het u gedoen om te verseker dat die belastingbetaler se geld ingevorder en teruggegee word vir die belastingbetaler?

Die laaste aspek: ek wil die agb Minister vra, en ek het hom ook amptelik 'n vraag gevra, oor 'n militêre regter wat in effek na Afrikaans verwys het asof dit walglik is. Ek wil vandag vir die agb Minister vra: Minister, as iemand verwys na 'n verklaring wat in Sesotho is, en hy sê dit is vir hom walglik dat 'n verklaring nog in Sesotho is, sal u daarop trots wees? Sal u daarmee tevrede wees? Nee, ek wil vir die agb Minister sê hy moet kyk na dié saak; hy moet optree en vinnig optree. Baie dankie. [Tyd verstreke.] (*Translation of Afrikaans speech follows.*)

[Mr P J GROENEWALD: Hon Deputy Speaker, I would like, at the outset, in my limited time of two minutes, to say to the hon Minister that we welcome the announcement regarding the 1 200 commando members. But there are still more than 50 000 members out there whom you, as Minister, have left in the lurch, for a variety of reasons.

Hon Minister, you are the political head of the SANDF and you have to come and report to this House about the taxpayers' money, and I would like to ask today: Hon Minister, I asked you a question in this House about the nearly R200 000 that was spent by the former head of the SANDF, Gen Nyanda, for a medal parade in France—R200 000 of the taxpayers' money to take his lady friend with him to go and receive a medal that the French were awarding him; how do you justify this? What is your answer to this?

Another matter that I would like to touch on is the issue of the Deputy President having to take a Defence Force doctor with on a trip, but the doctor has to fly on another aircraft. This is taxpayers' money. The hon Minister is on record as having said that the Defence

Force would only pay if it were an official journey. This was not an official journey. The question I wish to put to the hon Minister this morning is: What did you as Minister do to prevent this and what steps have you taken to ensure that the taxpayers' money is recovered and given back to the taxpayer?

The last aspect: I want to ask the hon Minister, and I also asked him an official question in this regard, about a military judge who in effect referred to Afrikaans as if it were disgusting. I would like to ask the hon Minister today: Minister, if someone refers to a statement in Sesotho, and he says that it is disgusting to him that a statement is still made in Sesotho, would you be proud of that? Would you be satisfied with that? No, I want to tell the hon Minister that he has to look into this matter; he has to act, and act fast. Thank you. [Time expired.]

Dr G W KOORNHOF: Agb Voorsitter, Minister, kamerade, kollegas en lede van die Nasionale Weermag . . . [Hon Chairperson, Minister, comrades, colleagues and members of the National Defence Force . . .]

. . . before I begin with my speech, I want to respond to the input made by the hon Shah of the DA. Firstly, he does not listen to the speech of the Minister on the future of the SANDF, but he just delivers a prepared speech under the instructions of his bosses. Secondly, he praises members of the SANDF, but then he opposes the Budget Vote, which means that there is no money to pay the salaries of the members that he praises. Thirdly, he criticises the expensive weaponry of the department, but then he goes on a trip in Cape Town harbour to enjoy looking at that expensive weaponry. [Laughter.] [Applause.] This is the way the DA deals with a national asset like the SANDF—I hope the people see this.

It's an honour and a privilege to participate in the Budget Vote on Defence. Let me say at the outset that we as the ANC are proud of the Department of Defence, which is doing a sterling job under difficult circumstances. I

result of this programme, our Defence Force currently has four companies with a capacity strength of 150 each, with two companies capable of deployment at any time. Therefore there is no crisis.

The Military Skills Development System enables the programme for commandos to be converted into conventional reserve force members to remain on course. A junior leadership group, that is, of lieutenants, is also in progress. Of course, there are challenges, such as an inadequate operational budget. You will find with the commando units that most of them are, at the moment, a bit far from the conventional reserves. You will still find most of them in urban areas. Therefore you find that the rural areas are left out, and that poses a security threat.

But through this MSDS and other programmes of the Defence Force that we have undertaken, we are phasing out the commandos. The security factor here is certainly being addressed, hence a need for consideration by the Ministry to decentralise these training sector units.

Linked to the MSDS is the long-standing matter regarding the service corps. The decision by the Department of Defence to revitalise the service corps unit within its establishment, Minister, is welcome. The service corps programme is aimed at equipping military personnel with alternatives skills, which they can apply when they leave the SANDF and enter civilian life.

Hon Minister and the Secretary for Defence, this programme is vital for current serving members of the SANDF. It should not wait or be applied after members have left the Defence Force. It is better and appropriate to empower SANDF members that are still serving now so that they are empowered as and when they opt out of the Defence Force. This will also ease the consideration of the currently planned Defence Force exit mechanism.

Therefore the budget should be structured

such that this is implemented. This will, in turn, bring some leverage to the Defence Force exit mechanism as it will provide reskilling for members of the SANDF to cope better in life beyond their period of serving the nation, as it is the culture of the ANC-led government to care for our soldiers. The exit mechanism should therefore not be equated with severance packages.

Lastly, hon Minister, I wish to draw your attention to the procurement policy. Spares and other replenishments hinder the SANDF's operations abroad. This we picked up during our visit to the Democratic Republic of Congo. A vehicle that does not meet UN standard requirements results in our Department of Defence not being able to recoup moneys spent on that vehicle, owing to a lack of serviceability. Hence, it becomes a loss. In conclusion, the ANC supports this budget. I thank you. [Applause.]

Mnr P J GROENEWALD: Agb Adjunk-speaker, ek wil aan die begin, in my beperkte tyd van twee minute, vir die agb Minister sê dat ons die aankondiging verwelkom van die 1 200 kommandoede. Daar is egter ook nog meer as 50 000 lede daar buite wat u, Minister, in die steek gelaat het en wel om verskeie redes.

Agb Minister, u is die politieke hoof van die SANW en moet in dié Raad kom verslag doen oor die belastingbetaler se geld, en ek wil vandag vra: agb Minister, ek het u 'n vraag gevra in hierdie Huis oor die byna R200 000 wat gespandeer is deur die vorige hoof van die SANW, genl Nyanda, vir 'n medaljeparade in Frankryk—R200 000 van die belastingbetaler se geld om sy vriendin saam met hom te neem om 'n medalje te gaan kry wat die Franse vir hom gee, hoe regverdig u dít? Wat is u antwoord daarop?

'n Ander saak wat ek wil aanraak, is die aspek van die Adjunkpresident wat 'n mediese dokter van die Weermag moet saamvat, maar die dokter moet op 'n ander vliegtuig vlieg. Dis belastingbetalers se geld. Die agb Minister is op rekord waar hy gesê

The ANC welcomes the recent announcement of the SA Army Vision 2020. It is a timeous pronouncement by the Chief of the Army to position this arm of service for any possible future challenges. The mandate of the army is twofold. Firstly, it is to provide a combat ready land force for the future; secondly, to contribute towards the development and upliftment of South Africa, its people and the African continent.

The challenge for our land forces is that future involvements in UN or AU operations may be related to peace enforcement needing war fighting capabilities as opposed to current peace support engagements, or that the current UN Chapter 6 responsibilities may convert to UN Chapter 7 responsibilities, the use of force.

These challenges are unpredictable and our land forces have no option but to prepare for possible peace enforcement operations and the conversion to UN Chapter 7 operations. This means that they must be structured, staffed, equipped and trained to meet future challenges.

For our land forces to fulfil their mandate, it is of vital importance to give attention to the prime mission equipment of our land forces. Equipment projects will have to be developed, and older systems must be adapted for less demanding jobs.

Een van die steunpilare in ons Nasionale Weermag is ons konvensionele reserwemag. In 'n onlangse brief aan 'n militêre tydskrif skryf Skutter Pepeta, 'n lid van die Durban Regiment, met sy terugkeer ná 'n diens-tydperk van ses maande uit die Demokratiese Republiek van die Kongo: "I am proud to be known as a South African National Reserve Force member from the Republic of South Africa."

Dit is dié positiewe gesindheid van ons man- en vrouesoldate wat diens vir ons land doen ver buite ons landsgrense wat gestalte gee

aan Pres Mbeki se uitspraak dat Suid-Afrika nou 'n era van hoop betree wat van ons 'n wennasie maak.

Ek bepleit dat die volgende drie aspekte ten opsigte van ons konvensionele reserwemagte dringend aandag kry: eerstens, die voedingstelsel uit die military skills development system [militêre vaardigheidsontwikkelingstelsel] na die reserwemageenhede moet bespoedig en versterk word; tweedens, leiergroepopleiding vir beide offisiere en onder-offisiere, en die behoorlike finansiering daarvan in ons reserwemageenhede voorkeur kry; en derdens, dat voorkeur gegee word om gevegsgereed-reserwemageenhede op die been te bring.

Daar is by my geen twyfel dat die leër se Visie 2020 vir sy sukses in die toekoms swaar gaan steun op ons konvensionele reserwemagte se bydra tot nasionale verdediging nie.

Ek sluit af deur te bevestig dat die ANC trots is op ons Nasionale Weermag en sy lede. Dit is merkwaardig om te sien hoe die bemanning van ons nuutste Corvette—waarvan mnr Shah lid of deel was—die SAS *Spioenkop*, ten volle verteenwoordigend van ons bevolking, dié skip bedrewe hanteer. Dit is betekenisvol wanneer die spesiale verteenwoordiger van die Sekretaris-Generaal van die VN in die DRK vir die portefeulje komitee sê Suid-Afrika is "the father of transition in the DRC", en hoe internasionale waarnemers die optrede van ons soldate in vredesoperasies prys.

Ons is trots om te sien hoe die SANW professioneel voorberei vir 'n staatsbesoek en trotse uitstalvenster vir Suid-Afrika is, soos wat ons vandag hier buite gaan sien met die besoek van die President van Palestina. Die ANC steun die Verdedigingsbegrotingspos. Ek dank u. [Applous.] (*Translation of Afrikaans paragraphs follows.*)

[One of the pillars of our National Defence Force is our conventional reserve force. In a recent letter to a military magazine, Rifle-

want to single out especially our men and women in uniform who are assisting to promote peace, security and stability in the region, the continent and still support the people of South Africa. [Applause.]

Two years after our first democratic election the White Paper on Defence was approved in 1996, outlining the transformation of the defence policy and of the SANDF. It was followed by the Defence Review in 1998, which elaborated on matters such as posture, force design, force levels, armaments, human resources, and funding, to name but a few. Both these documents are now dated and are under review by the department.

Both Parliament and all its stakeholders are eagerly awaiting the outcome of this defence update. I trust that this update or review of the review, will be properly titled, Mr Minister, like "The South African National Defence in the 21st Century", because it can become the benchmark for a modern defence force in the region, on the continent and even internationally.

The outcome of this review will, in a nutshell, indicate what the SANDF must do and what it is supposed to do. As it is a government and a Commander in Chief that deploys the SANDF, it follows logically that the SANDF will be funded for the activities which it is requested to perform.

It is therefore not a matter of increasing the defence budget to fund the needs, but rather to identify the needs of the SANDF, what it is mandated to do, and then to fund that. Therefore, the approach should be to cost the needs or objectives, to assist the allocation of resources.

We in the ANC are looking forward to the outcome of this defence review process late in this year, as it will hopefully move away from the current situation where the budget of the department is under continuous pressure. The past 18 years have seen a real decrease in the defence budget with some

unfunded mandates and the problem that not all policy proposals could be funded.

A matter related to defence activities and funding is maintenance of defence facilities. The Portfolio Committee on Defence recently visited Thaba Tshwane to oversee the state of facilities. The committee has submitted its report with recommendations to Parliament.

In many instances the facilities are buildings, hospitals and bases that have deteriorated to such an extent that maintenance is urgently required. [Interjections.] At the same time some facilities are underutilised. The question arises whether different force structures should not be considered to create an own capacity to maintain its own facilities. [Interjections.]

The decision taken seven years ago to acquire strategic defence packages, Mr Shah, turned out to be a good decision. [Interjections.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr G Q M Doidge): Order! Hon member, please take your seat. Hon members, let us respect those that are on the podium because they have a right to be heard. You can rise on a point of order if you have a problem but I think we need to contain ourselves. Please proceed hon member.

[Interjections.]

Dr G W KOORNHOF: Thank you, Chair. I think the hon member has a permanent problem. [Laughter.] The decision taken seven years ago to acquire strategic defence packages, turned out to be a good decision, as we now are witnessing a newly equipped navy taking to the seas to fulfil their mandated role, and a soon to be newly equipped air force. Systems are being integrated and personnel are being trained to operate the new equipment. Even young soldiers who joined the SANDF through the military skills development system are preparing to operate these new systems and equipment.

for various programmes exist, but the MF is willing to give this new divisional plan a chance to manage the department's affairs affectively and efficiently. The MF supports the Defence budget, Budget Vote 21. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

Mr O E MONARENG: Hon Chair, hon Minister of Defence and Deputy Minister, all Ministers and Deputies around, the Defence Secretary, the Chief of Defence, allow me this opportunity to join whoever was part and parcel of this debate. I want to start by saying that I will not embark too much on what the hon Shah said. I just want to say: "I pity you, Mr Shah. You belong to the wrong party. If you were part of the ANC, you could have been happier." [Laughter.]

The defence strategy has been clearly set out and defined in this year's strategic business plan as a key element that will lay the basis for the defence function during this year and during the entire Medium-Term Expenditure Framework. It outlines the strategic intent of government, and encompasses the military strategy the objectives of which are to enhance and maintain comprehensive defensive capabilities; promote peace, security and stability in the region and on the continent; and provide support for the people of South Africa.

The defence strategy cannot be operationalised without support strategies, mainly the human resource strategy including the reserve force strategy, the capital renewal strategy, the joint logistics strategy and the defence information management system.

Having set out the defence strategy, it is incumbent upon the defence establishment to make it alive and ensure that they act within the guidelines provided therein. Furthermore, the defence strategy must be seen in the context of the overarching national strategy of which it is a component.

The evolution of the defence strategy is derived from the country's already set na-

tional security framework, and needs to be enhanced by ensuring that there are concrete elements made visible in the operationalisation thereof. These include, for the purposes of today's budget debate, ensuring that Defence acts in conformity with other entities within the national security framework, be it the Presidency, Foreign Affairs, policing, the intelligence services, etc.

The defence intelligence services of our country need to ensure that the capabilities that they have are further enhanced within the framework set out in the law. This is important, as recent incidents that have been published have not projected the intelligence services in general in a positive light. As we have said previously, accountability for the functioning of the intelligence services must be strengthened and we must ensure that they act within the law.

We have also stated in the past that the conditions of our defence intelligence headquarters are unbearable, and the sooner the occupational health and safety hazards for the members occupying that building are attended to the better, as already emphasised in the certificate of noncompliance issued by the Department of Labour well over a year ago. We therefore need to see concrete plans and timelines for this to happen during the current session of Parliament.

I just want to say that we in the portfolio committee had the opportunity of paying a visit to the intelligence headquarters and we were not very impressed with the state of the building. We have recommended that intelligence services be relocated elsewhere. I'm sure that the Department of Defence is looking into that matter.

An ever-increasing challenge to which defence intelligence must rise is ensuring that its capabilities, both human and material, are not negatively affected and that it remains at the cutting edge of fulfilling its mandate in accordance with the law. This means that defence intelligence has to become a sound

man Pepeta, a member of the Durban Regiment, wrote the following on his return from six months' active service in the Democratic Republic of Congo: "I am proud to be known as a South African National Reserve Force member from the Republic of South Africa."

It is this positive attitude of our male and female soldiers serving our country far beyond our borders that gives credence to President Mbeki's pronouncement that South Africa has now entered an era of hope that makes us a winning nation.

I appeal for urgent attention to be given to three aspects in respect of our conventional reserve forces: Firstly, the feeding system from the military skills development system to the reserve force units must be accelerated and strengthened; secondly, group leadership training for both officers and non-commissioned officers, and the proper funding thereof in our reserve force units, must receive priority; and, thirdly, priority must be given to the establishment of battle-ready reserve force units.

There is no doubt in my mind that the army's Vision 2020 will rely heavily for its success in the future on the contribution of our conventional reserve forces to national defence.

I conclude by confirming that the ANC is proud of our National Defence Force and its members. It is remarkable to see how skilfully the crew of our latest Corvette, the *SAS Spioenkop*—of which Mr Shah was a member or to which he was a party—is operating that ship, the crew being fully representative of our population. It is significant when the special representative of the Secretary General of the UN in the DRC tells the portfolio committee that South Africa is: the father of transition in the DRC and that international observers are praising the conduct of our soldiers in peacekeeping operations.

We are proud to take note of the professional

way in which the SANDF prepares for a state visit and serves as a proud showcase for South Africa, as will be seen today during the visit by the President of Palestine. The ANC supports the Defence Vote. I thank you. [Applause.]

Ms S RAJBALLY: Chair, hon Minister, hon Deputy Ministers, the Department of Defence has over the past 10 years opened its doors to a more democratic system, inviting women and physically challenged persons to join its ranks. The MF hopes that this process continues to attract a true representation of the variety of South Africans, and the department has the appreciation of the nation for their dedication to and sacrifice for South Africa.

The MF takes this opportunity to applaud all members of the Defence Force who are committed to protecting and defending South Africa. Beyond these heroic sacrifices, our troops dedicate their lives to achieving world peace by engaging in foreign-policy initiatives through Nepad, SADC, the AU and the UN. A peace-support operation by our troops continues in the DRC, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Sudan, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia and Liberia.

The MF is concerned about the conditions members of the Defence Force have to live in. The MF feels that it is incumbent on us to ensure that Defence Force members' needs at these posts are maintained appropriately, considering that they are placing their lives on the line for us.

With regard to the budget, the MF notes that the Department of Defence's budget has decreased for this year and is set to continue decreasing over the next two financial years. We express our concern as to how this decrease will affect the operation of the department. Further concern is expressed over the R3,3 billion allocated for maintenance, property rates, and municipal services and leasing.

A number of issues regarding the decreases

Die totale gebrek aan logika van die agb Koornhof staan vanoggend hier uit soos 'n seer vinger. [The hon Koornhof's total lack of logic sticks out like a sore thumb this morning.]

It is totally illogical to think that any member of any committee who, in the execution of his committee duties, participates in a visit to a new frigate is thereby demonstrating support for the arms deal and the current Budget. If that is the logic of a member of this committee, then that explains precisely why they have problems with the arms deal, because, immediately, anything which is ethical goes by the backdoor; anything which has a reference to how you do business, apparently also goes the same way. Because you have gone to look at the boat, you are then bound to support the arms deal; you are bound to support their budget.

If that is what Mr Monareng and Mr Koornhof are saying, then I understand why we have had this fiasco; why we have had a chief whip of the majority governing party being found guilty in a court of law while the name of the Minister who signed that arms deal has not yet been cleared, because he unfortunately passed away.

I understand then why we have these problems. I understand this morning exactly why we understand it, but you have a more positive perspective.

The modernisation of this defence capability and the funds spent on the Military Skills Development System and antiretroviral roll-out are in line with the appropriate spending patterns by the SA National Defence Force.

Whilst the infrastructure is to receive R1 billion for the next financial year, it is clearly not adequate to address all the outstanding neglect by this ANC government on buildings, roads, bungalows, stores, hangars and runways. Ask those people in the gallery under what conditions they have lived and continue to live.

And then Mr Monareng, you talked about

loyalty. [Interjections.] Human resource strategy 2010, which intends rejuvenating the human resources of the SANDF is based on the military skills development system. With due respect, until December 2005, 7 626 school-leavers have been trained in terms of this programme.

We are all proud of that, and we congratulate the department on that, but it doesn't mean we have to support the budget. It doesn't mean we do not have to criticise. We will do so. We will do so fearlessly. [Interjections.]

The continued withdrawal of the commando system from the rural areas, despite a note of caution from various nongovernmental organisations, not only the DA, has done nothing to ensure a decrease in crime levels in those affected areas.

In fact, the withdrawal thereof has left thousands of members, black, white, coloured and Indian, who were previously gainfully employed albeit for a specified time period, totally without income, or any hope of providing financially for their families.

When the cost-saving measures of withdrawing the commando system are compared to the advantages in favours of the continued implementation thereof, consideration should be given to reversing such a poor, uninformed and far-reaching negative decision.

Taking into consideration the state-of-the-nation address by the President earlier this year, it is clear that high demands are placed on the Defence Force and its structures in setting up all kinds of different measures. I do not intend mentioning them here due to time restrictions.

It is thus clear in my view and our view that the crux of the task intended for the SANDF seems to be more of an outbound nature than of a national nature. Currently, more than 3 000 soldiers have been deployed continuously at any given point in time to fulfil undertakings made by the President and

and creditworthy decision-support mechanism and not be tempted to go astray.

Although it reports regularly to the Joint Standing Committee on Intelligence, there needs to be a further tightening of similar reporting to the parliamentary defence committees, of course through the Minister of Defence. It will therefore become incumbent on us to strengthen these reporting lines not only in terms of accountability to Parliament but also in terms of the executive function.

A growing challenge, which needs to be amplified, is ensuring that a requisite repository of skills is acquired, maintained and retained in order to ensure that the products of defence intelligence form a sound basis for decision-making in the defence establishment. A plan will therefore need to be put in place to ensure that the high level of training and professionalism that defence intelligence has acquired is not lost to other sectors of the community or even beyond. It must be a place of first choice of employment within Defence.

Defence intelligence will also need to ensure that as we are involved in peace-support operations and become more involved, there is requisite intelligence operations capability and defence intelligence support. The current elements, which are part of the SA National Defence Force deployments, must therefore be enhanced and ensure that, typical of what they should do, they become the eyes and ears of the command structures on the ground.

I just want to thank and congratulate the Minister of Defence on doing a good job in making sure that he and his department convert our Defence Force into a professional and efficient organisation, which today enjoys respect on the continent, in the region and in the world.

We want to say that when we visited SAS Spioenkop, DA member Shah was reeling with excitement, saying that the DA has been opposed to this beautiful and advanced

technology. He was actually saying this to me, because he was very excited. I'm saying that even if we go for the fifth Corvette ...

Moulana M R SAYEDALI-SHAH: On a point of order ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr G Q M Doidge): Order! Hon Monareng, please take your seat. [Interjections.]

Moulana M R SAYEDALI-SHAH: Hon Chairperson, I would advise the speaker to stop putting ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr G Q M Doidge): Are you rising on a point of order? [Interjections.]

Moulana M R SAYEDALI-SHAH: He is misleading this House. I never said the things he is saying, nor did I say the things that were said before. [Interjections.] He is misleading the House.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr G Q M Doidge): Order! Order! Hon Monareng, you know what your discussion was with Mr Shah, but we leave that to your discretion.

Mr O E MORANENG: What I can say, hon Chair, is that he can deny what he said, but he cannot deny the excitement because he was very, very excited. [Laughter.] So I want to say without further ado that the ANC supports Budget Vote 21. [Applause.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr G Q M Doidge): I don't think it's appropriate for the Chair to be seen to be smiling, but the debate is quite enjoyable. [Laughter.]

Adv H C SCHMIDT: Hon Chairperson, from listening to the debate so far, it is disconcerting to hear that the same problems continue to exist year after year, which still need to be addressed and resolved. That is an indictment against this government.

On behalf of the men and women sitting in the gallery—I wish we were all proud, Minister—we will continue to raise these issues until they are dealt with satisfactorily.

therefore no reason for the SANDF to ready and gear itself for preparation as if there is a war. So, there is no crisis within the SANDF.

The second part of the national strategy of the SANDF within the Strategic Business Plan—that is in the office of hon Sayedali-Shah and he did not look into it—refers to its own missions. Missions are combinations of tasks that should be performed to achieve the military strategic objectives. This is the second point we are making and emphasising. That is what we are looking for.

You are saying that the SANDF is spending most of its time outside South Africa withdrawing from conflict areas, or from what you presume to be areas of conflict. Wherever the commandos are deployed, those areas are definitely areas of concern to us, as people who were fighting against apartheid. For you it could not be areas of concern because the commandos were doing things that were quite important to you. But for me, who has been fighting for the liberation of this country, those were areas of concern. They were areas of battles and where people have been infiltrating in order to enter South Africa.

Today they are not really natural areas that need to be defended. Against whom are you defending yourself? You cannot be defending yourself because Umkhonto we Sizwe doesn't exist anymore. So, it is an internal arrangement. It is a domestic matter of how we resolve our conflicts, and Comrade Koornhof has been very outstanding in explaining to you how good we as South Africans are at getting into negotiations and being able to resolve our differences.

This has been proved in a number of capacities. We have just given Helen Zille a good lesson last night, when we resolved with her the 2010 World Soccer differences and lectured her on how governments budget, because she has never budgeted for any government. So, she doesn't understand what is going on in budgeting for a city. So,

that is the difficulty we are going to have with her. I know Comrade Nomatyala is around; she will always help Helen Zille to achieve some of the goals she is now "misperforming" in the city.

With regard to the Force Employment Strategy, maybe that is one other thing that I must help you to understand because it is also in the business strategy. You know we have to have the DA member. The SANDF is increasingly called upon to support the foreign policy requirements of government. These requirements primarily lie in supporting our continent in peace and humanitarian missions as well as military co-operation. The Force Employment Strategy directs the SANDF on the conduct of operations in this domain.

Now it does really mean that this government will not be able to deploy and apply the strategy of saying, let the SANDF participate in a conflict or intra-party infighting where the DA and the ANC are having differences. You cannot deploy the SANDF there. So, that means it is not its responsibility or core function.

So, what we are beginning to do is to leave the SANDF. That is a proactive action we are taking to be able to say: How do you make sure that we are continuously stabilising South Africa? How do you build confidence among South Africans so that they are able to know that their government is there for them?

So, there is no way you can come to the podium and say that the SANDF is unable to carry out the constitutional obligation that it has guaranteed and put forward. The SANDF is doing that. We are getting involved in peace missions on the African continent. The SANDF is defending the constitutionality of African countries.

The SANDF is not a politician. Politicians have decided that it is important to stabilise the African continent to ensure that Africans are able to govern themselves properly. This

Cabinet, which are to the detriment of the continued maintenance and upkeep of the Defence Force in general. Various alternatives and policy directives had to be reformulated and put on hold by the department in light of the short supply of funds spent on nothing less than international image-building exercises.

In stark contrast thereto, we have submissions by the department to National Treasury for funding for, inter alia, the readiness and serviceability of operational vehicles, Mr Koornhof, being reduced from R495 million to R150 million, and remodernisation of the Department of Defence information and communication systems being reduced from R213 million to R99 million. That is the kind of defence force that you want to go and do an international image-building exercise.

More importantly, we have the meagre amount of R3 million to be allocated to the rebuilding of the entire conventional reserves. That's just R3 million, Mr Minister. This amount probably does not even suffice for the running of one company of 120 men for a year, let alone the entire conventional reserves!

Dit is lagwekkend. Dit is 'n skreiende skande! [It is ludicrous. It is a crying shame!]

The amount of R6 million allocated for the 2007-08 financial year does not improve the situation at all. It is a true reflection of the saying: "Too little, too late".

Another area of concern is the fact that the allocation for administration has increased by an enormous amount to R1,7 billion, a totally excessive figure in light of other competing demands faced by the Defence Force. Mr Chair, if I may end ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr G Q M Doidge): Order! Hon member, you are way over time.

Adv H C SCHMIDT: Thank you, Mr Chair. [Applause.]

Mr M S BOOI: Hon Minister, let me congratulate you on the delivery of such a good speech today; not just on the speech, but also for being able to show the progress and the professionalism that has grown in the SA National Defence Force. We also congratulate our new members who came through the programme of the military skills development system, the Secretary for Defence, all the generals we have here today and hon Deputy Ministers.

I must say that I am always amazed about the way the DA conducts itself. But because I live in the Western Cape, I have learned a few lessons in the last week that their conduct reflects what Zille does in my province. So, it does not surprise me when hon Sayedali-Shah forgets most of the things we tell him in the committee. And the way he conducts himself does not surprise me. So, I have decided not just to revamp the business strategy but to outline for him in English that is quite simple for him to understand what we mean and what the SANDF is doing, because if one has not understood the business strategy of the SANDF, it's always difficult for one to be able to understand the role of the SANDF.

Just to help you hon Sayedali-Shah. I hope you have the book in front of you because it is important for me to be able to assist you because you talked about the defence strategy. That is on page 11, under Force Preparation Strategy. I do not understand where hon Sayedali-Shah gets his information on maintenance from, because the SANDF is not about maintenance. It does not do maintenance. Its core business is to defend and protect the country.

With regard to the Force Preparation Strategy the SANDF says:

The defence capabilities of the SANDF will only be fully used in the event of a general war, which threatens the nation's sovereignty.

There is no national threat, and there is

so that when we deal with this environment we know exactly what we are talking about. We are not saying that there is nobody running after the prostitutes. We do say that there are such problems, but what we are asking is whether there can be real definitions from the UN so that when we deal with this thing within the South African environment there is clearly understanding of what we mean. We don't say that our soldiers don't misbehave.

There is definitely a lot of explanation that has been provided by the SANDF in presenting to themselves and to the UN that these are the circumstances and these are the areas of sexual abuse that sometimes confront our people, not to say that they don't do anything.

Sometimes, in the cases that I have in front of me that I want to continuously raise, they accuse one of our persons there of having removed some property from one particular person whom they refer to as a prostitute. Now, this being an engagement between these two people, the South African media don't listen nor ask what exactly has happened and what the circumstances are. Has the poor soldier been engaged in a love affair with this person? They say they don't ask those questions. They assume that because these two people have been engaged in this type of situation or have had a love affair, that these are sexual abuse cases, and South African soldiers are ill-disciplined.

We have been saying as a committee that it is very much so. I put it to the Ministry that it is very much so that whatever the UN has come up with and presented as a report and put in front of you, you should continuously make sure that that report is being shared with the South African public so that all these malicious media reports that are being made about our soldiers' conduct in the DRC are corrected because it's vital to their morale that you are able to give a correct interpretation of exactly what is going on.

That has been our feeling as people who have been able to be part of that committee, because we have exercised and listened to what exactly is happening as members of

that multiparty delegation. Even hon Sayedali-Shah himself can't dispute that. He knows as a matter of fact that that report has not been presented to us as a Defence Committee and that the UN has not been able to substantiate all the allegations made against our soldiers. For us that is important, because if you don't get that report then it means that there are people who are outside agencies, even intelligence officers, who continue to play a game against our own forces to try to make sure that they destroy the image of the SANDF.

As the Chief of Defence said, our soldiers are well accepted in all African countries. That is why we are saying to them, as you go to prepare for the DRC elections, be confident that South Africans are behind you because the responsibilities you have, your own performance and your own readiness, and how you have conducted yourselves within the African continent, have shown us that. That's why we say the peacekeeping mission will always remain important.

Thank you, House Chairperson. [Time expired.] [Applause.]

The MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Chairperson, just to deal with some loose ends . . .

Agb Groenewald, die kommando's was maar altyd deeltydse personeel en nie voltyds in diens nie. Ek dink 'n mens moet maar aanvaar dat die meerderheid van hulle nie sou kon deel wees van die Weermag nie, want dit kom neer op voltydse indiensneming.

Ek het net genoem dat ons daardie mense wat beskikbaar was om voltyds in die Weermag te wees, ingeneem het, maar dis onmoontlik met mense soos boere op hul plase en besigheidsmense wat deel was van die kommando's, want hulle is net nie beskikbaar om daar te help nie. Ek dink hulle is beskikbaar as deel van die intelligensie om die polisie te steun.

Tweedens, in verband met die reis van genl Nyanda Parys toe: ek dink daar is 'n groot misverstand. Hy het saam met sy dogter Parys toe gereis. Ek weet sy is baie pragtig, maar dit is darem sy dogter en nie 'n

is what the SANDF is doing and it is what you are continuously missing, hon Sayedali-Shah. I really sympathise with you on that particular matter. I also sympathise with you when you are continuously repeating an issue that we have spoken about—that we are aware that it is not the responsibility of the SANDF to build military hospitals. That is the sole responsibility of Public Works. You cannot continuously blame the leadership of the SANDF that is sitting here. That is not their responsibility.

The next part that you want to explain is that it seems as if people are continuously confusing and continuously working on the morale of the SANDF and keep on praising themselves that they are supporting the SANDF. But our concern as ANC is that people continuously keep on picking up wrong facts. We have been able to go together to the DRC. We have interacted with the UN and we are leading that particular delegation.

The discipline of our own soldiers is one thing that we are proud of. The report that the Chief of Defence has brought from the DRC on different visits around the African continent is an agreed report that we all support. We have never investigated allegations that have been made by the UN against our own soldiers. Sometimes the media is making these allegations. We have never investigated exactly what the circumstances were, what the influences were and what was happening with our own soldiers there.

We have been trying to get information and trying to establish exactly what the situation is that is confronting our soldiers, because it's not that our soldiers, when they arrive in these different African countries, don't understand their role. These are disciplined soldiers.

Allegations that we have asked the UN to present the report on alleged misconduct to us are untrue. I have personally spoken to Swing and pointed out to him that it is all very well for OIOS to make all these

allegations, but there is a difficulty of balance. What the UN defines as sexual abuse is not in line with the South African definition—unless and until we are able as South Africans and the UN to get down and re-define it so that within the African continent there is an understanding of what is meant by sexual abuse. This is where some of the soldiers were caught up, and it is where some of their own problems started.

We have expressed that to OIOS and said that as we are preparing this report and taking it to the UN, it should ensure that it highlights to us what exactly it meant by sexual abuse. We have not yet received a response because that should help us to establish whether our soldiers were wrong.

As South Africans and Africans, we know that sometimes a soldier may greet a person but be misunderstood. There may be a totally different interpretation of what he may have said. Soldiers are paid by the UN and they get paid in dollars and they wear very nice suits—like mine. Sometimes it may happen that some of the clothes are very outstanding. So, what happens in the environment? It is then said that these soldiers, because of the material goods that they have, are beginning to influence women in the areas surrounding their bases. Now, that is very difficult because it is their outlook.

South Africans sometimes buy these suits that make them to look very outstanding from others on the African continent. Now, when they are in those environments it is said that because of the dollars these are very poor people that you are engaging, these are the women that you are talking to. So, it is very difficult for these poor fellows to decide what is best and what is not best for them to do, because they are not going to say it. When they take off their uniforms and put on their civilian clothes they are definitely going to look very nice and beautiful because those soldiers are very beautiful fellows.

So, this is the type of thing we wanted to clear ourselves of. And, these are the type of understandings we have. The UN must give us an insight of its own definitions of abuse,

Minister. We apologise for the misunderstanding. Thank you for your explanation. [Laughter.]

The MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Chairperson, quite correctly the hon Ndlovu raised the issue of the conditions at Thaba Tshwane, which are very unsatisfactory, and I think that portfolio committee members visited the place. I'd like to, immediately, say that the department itself is very concerned. Until recently the maintenance of the facilities of Defence and other departments were done by Public Works. We are fortunate now that there has been a change at Cabinet level and various departments are now assuming responsibility for the maintenance of their own facilities.

So, I may now indicate that this year, starting next month with our budget for this year, we have already set aside R10 million for the upgrading and improvement of the conditions in which our people live. We will, in the coming year, put aside another R136 million—it's already in the medium term that R136 million is projected and dedicated for the further improvement or ongoing improvement of our facilities. Then, finally, in the 2008-09 budget we have provisionally set aside R285 million to address and improve those conditions.

Now, there is an issue that hon Ndlovu raised that relates to the question of recruitment, and that it appears as if in our recruitment drive we do not make information as widely available to people as is possible. First of all, I must say that we have recruiters that go out all the time and mostly we receive applications that by far exceed the number of available positions, because, ultimately, we are guided by the budget.

Last year we had some 75 000 applications. Out of these 75 000 we could only take in, I think, up to about 6 426. But the situation is improving. It is for that reason that Defence, together with Education and Labour, is now working on plans to expand our capacity for intake and therefore thanks for the input. I'm also disappointed that the issue has not ... Minister Mdladlana is not with me, all right. [Laughter.]

May I say that if indeed the impression was left that we do not make information available to all the people in terms of recruiting, we would be in contravention of the law because we would then be violating the equality clause in the Constitution. We must make information available to everybody.

I must say that I shall now deal with the last question which I think requires attention in this debate. If hon Shah were listening to my Budget Vote speech earlier on he would have heard me say, and I quote: "National security is a function first of diplomacy, and secondly of the military."

Let me unbundle that. Nations of the world conduct diplomacy via departments of foreign affairs or foreign relations. The reason for the foreign relations exercise is to cultivate friendly relations with as many nations as is possible, particularly those in your immediate surrounds. When, therefore, there are friendly relations between countries, the possibility of war, or of being attacked, is cut down. That's the first line of defence—diplomacy.

So, in Southern Africa, after we destroyed apartheid, we joined together with the nations of our region in the Southern African Development Community. Once, therefore, we were working together with them, we cultivated an atmosphere of a friendly South Africa with friendly neighbours. They therefore have no reason to contemplate plotting and planning to attack us. Why? Because we have good relations with them.

Secondly, we then said: This is not enough. Let us negotiate a mutual defence pact with the countries of our region so that they see us as a potential support to ward off enemies, not only for us but also for them. So now we have a Mutual Defence Pact with the countries of our region, which means they know when they go to bed at night that South Africa has signed an agreement—mutual defence—with them and the SANDF is not getting ready to attack them by night, as the SA defence force of apartheid used to do.

So what are we doing? We are defending ourselves by cultivating an atmosphere of

vriendin wat hy saamgeneem het nie. [Gelag.] [Tussenwerpsels.]

Wat die taalkwessie betref: ek is hier in die Huis 'n vraag gevra, en ek het skriftelik geantwoord en verduidelik dat die vraag wat deur die regter gevra is, te make het met die feit dat daar tolking vir Afrikaans sowel as ander tale moes gewees het, en hy kwaad was nie oor die feit dat Afrikaans getolk is nie, maar omdat dit net gedeeltelik gedoen is—net vir Afrikaans—onderwyl daar behoefte in die hof was om vir ander mense ook te tolk. Dít was die vraag en dis in my antwoord wat ek aan die Huis probeer oordra het.

Ons kan die saak nog opvolg as u miskien nie tevrede is nie, maar ek is heeltemal tevrede daarmee. Ek weet die regter is tans in Burundi, maar hy sal ook terug wees en ons sal die saak dan verder neem.

Mnr P J GROENEWALD: Agb Voorsitter, is die agb Minister bereid om 'n vraag te antwoord? [Tussenwerpsels.]

Dankie, agb Minister. Agb Minister, ek aanvaar u verduideliking dat dit die generaal se dogter is. My vraag aan die agb Minister is, is dit binne die reëls en praktyk dat belastingbetalers se geld dan aangewend kan word as 'n persoon sy familielid wil saamneem vir so 'n medaljeparade?

Die MINISTER VAN VERDEDIGING: Ja, my begrip is dat die antwoord ja is in hierdie instansie. U sien, hy is geskei en het nie 'n vrou nie en hy het sy dogter in die plek van sy vrou geneem, en die reëls laat dit toe. [Applous.]

Mnr P J GROENEWALD: Verskoning, agb Minister. Ons vra om verskoning vir die misverstand. Baie dankie vir die verduideliking. [Gelag.] (*Translation of Afrikaans paragraphs follows.*)

[The MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Hon Groenewald, the commandos have always been part-time staff and were never employed full-time. I think that we can accept that the majority of them would not have been able to be part of the Defence Force, because it amounts to full-time employment.

I mentioned that we took in those people who were available to be in the Defence Force on a full-time basis, but it is impossible with people like farmers on their farms and business people who formed part of the commandos, because they are just not available to help. I think they are available as part of the intelligence to support the police.

Secondly, with regard to the trip of Gen Nyanda to Paris: I think there is a big misunderstanding. He travelled to Paris with his daughter. I know she is extremely beautiful, but at least he took his daughter with him and not a girlfriend. [Laughter.] [Interjections.]

Concerning the language issue: I was asked a question in this House, to which I gave a written reply and explained that the question asked by the judge concerned the fact that there should have been interpreting for Afrikaans as well as the other languages, and that his anger was not about the fact that Afrikaans was interpreted, but because there was only partial interpretation—only for Afrikaans—while there was a need in court to interpret for other people as well. That was the question and this was in my reply that I tried to convey to the House.

We can still follow up on this matter, if you are not satisfied, but I am totally satisfied with it. I know that at the moment the judge is in Burundi, but he will be back and we will then take the matter further.

Mr P J GROENEWALD: Hon Chairperson, is the hon Minister prepared to take a question? [Interjections.]

Thank you, hon Minister. Hon Minister, I accept your explanation that it was the general's daughter. My question to the hon Minister is, is it within the rules and practice that taxpayers' money can be used when a person wants to take a family member to a medal parade?

The MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Yes, my understanding is that the answer in this case is yes. You see, he is divorced and took his daughter in his wife's place, and the rules allow it. [Applause.]

Mr P J GROENEWALD: Apologies, hon

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

The House met at 12:02.

The Speaker took the Chair and requested members to observe a moment of silence for prayers or meditation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, TABLINGS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS—see col 1519.

WELCOMING OF PRESIDENT OF PALESTINE

(Announcement)

The SPEAKER: Hon members, Mr President, we are honoured to have amongst us today His Excellency, President Mahmoud Abbas, of the State of Palestine, whom we have invited to address this sitting of the National Assembly, on the occasion of his visit to South Africa.

I take this opportunity to welcome you to Parliament, Mr President.

I now call on the hon Imam Gassan Solomon to introduce His Excellency, the President of the State of Palestine. [Applause.]

INTRODUCTION OF PRESIDENT OF PALESTINE

Mr G SOLOMON: Madam Speaker, Your Excellency Dr Abbas, President of the State of Palestine, Mr President, your Excellencies, distinguished guests, today our government and the people of our country are very honoured indeed to have President Abbas in the Parliament of South Africa.

The people of South Africa share many

common historical experiences with the people of Palestine. We are mindful that Palestine is no ordinary country. It is the Holy Land, and the shared sacred space of Judaism, Christianity and Islam. It is from Palestine that the universal salutations of "*As-salaamu-alaikum*" [peace be upon you], and "*Shalom*" [peace] originate. The crucial message desperately needed today in the Middle East, of peace and goodwill towards men and women, emanates from the history of Palestine.

Your Excellency, Mr President, you visit our country at a time when critical challenges confront the Middle East region and the people of Palestine who, for many years, many decades, have been subjected to conditions of conflict, political instability and insecurity.

The experiences of the people of Palestine are no different to those which the masses of South African people were subjected to under the apartheid regime. Therefore, your visit affords us an opportunity to share the common experiences of the masses of the people of South Africa and Palestine. These common experiences must inform our commitment to peace and unity across the political, ideological, racial and cultural divide.

Your Excellency, our painful experiences under the apartheid system only strengthened our commitment to working for reconciliation, unity, peace and co-existence for all in South Africa. Mr President, we are succeeding because we firmly believe in the historical principle of our Freedom Charter that South Africa belongs to all who live in it, both black and white.

confidence, winning the confidence of our neighbours and, indeed, being available for that. This is defence.

When, therefore, there are problems in the DRC and there is conflict there, the SANDF, the SA Defence ministry supporting Foreign Affairs and other departments, go into the DRC. We work with our neighbours in the region of the DRC and assist them to do all the preparations that are being made for presidential elections, to be held next month.

We are investing in the goodwill of the people of the DRC—a very big country—so that even tomorrow, and for generations to come, when democracy and peace have come to their country, they will always remember that the people of South Africa were there with them when they needed it most. Their democracy must serve them, their peace must serve them as Congolese, but it must also serve the people of the country. That is defence. [Time expired.] [Applause.]

Debate concluded.

PASSING AWAY OF THE MOTHER OF THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS

(Draft Resolution)

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE MAJORITY PARTY: Chairperson, I move without notice:

That the House—

- (1) notes the passing away on 31 March 2006 of Ms Zoe Ida

Mapisa, mother of the Minister of Home Affairs, the hon Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula;

- (2) recalls that Ms Mapisa was born on 1 January 1928 at Butterworth and worked as a matron at St Matthew's Teachers' Training College for many years;
- (3) further recalls that Mama Mapisa was a pillar of strength to her children and the people of South Africa during the darkest days of apartheid and that her unwavering support to the cause of freedom left an indelible mark in our quest for democracy and a better life for all;
- (4) recognises that her life was characterised by a silent determination to carry the burden of motherhood and that her ability to extend the frontiers of mercy, compassion and love far beyond her family to the broader South African democratic family, will never be forgotten; and
- (5) expresses its heartfelt condolences to the hon Minister Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula, Minister Charles Nqakula, their family, relatives and friends.

Agreed to.

The House adjourned at 11:45.

However, in view of the fact that the other House, the National Council of Provinces, is presently visiting one of the provinces of South Africa, we were unable to have a Joint Sitting.

So, presently, hon President, you are going to be addressing the National Assembly. His Excellency, the President of the State of Palestine will now address the House. [Applause.]

**ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE STATE OF PALESTINE,
HIS EXCELLENCY DR MAHMOUD ABBAS**

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

معالي السيدة رئيسة الجمعية الوطنية

السيد الرئيس تابو مبيكي

سيداتني ساداتني

أشكركم على دعوتكم الكريمة للتحدث اليوم أمام ممثلي شعب جنوب أفريقيا الصديق، هذا البلد العظ الذي يمثل نموذجاً لكل شعوب العالم في الكفاح من أجل المساواة بين جميع مواطنيه، البلد الذي قضى على نظا التفرقة العنصرية، والذي يواصل دعمه لقضايا الحرية في كل مكان، البلد الذي تربطه بنا نحن أبناء الشعب الفلسطيني أقوى وأوثق الروابط والعلاقات، ونتطلع إليه كنموذج نستمد منه العزم رغم كل الصعوبات، لنواصل مسيرتنا حتى يتحقق السلام العادل في منطقتنا، ونحصل على حقنا في تقرير مصيرنا بحرية، وتقوم دولة الفلسطينية المستقلة وعاصمتها القدس الشرقية.

أنقل إليكم اليوم، أيها الأصدقاء والصديقات أعضاء البرلمان، تحيات شعبنا الفلسطيني، تحيات أعضاء مجلسنا الوطني، ومجلسنا التشريعي المنتخب حديثاً، وأؤكد لكم مجدداً اعتزازنا بعمق ومتانة العلاقات النضالا والتاريخية بين شعبينا، والتي أرسى دعائمها الرئيس والصديق العزيز، المناضل الأفريقي والعالمي نيلسو مانديلا، والرئيس الشهيد ياسر عرفات، والتي تتواصل بكل حميمية مع الأخ والصديق العزيز الرئيس تابو مبيكي وحكومته، حيث نحرص على الاستماع لنصائحه، ونواصل تنسيق مواقفنا بشأن مختلف القضايا الثناء والعالمية.

فخامة الرئيس: أبو مازن؛ محمود عباس؛ رئيس دولة فلسطين.
السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته.

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم.

باسم جمهورية جنوب أفريقيا حكومة وشعبا أرحب بكم في المجلس
الوطني، سائلا المولى الكريم أن تكون زيارتكم لبلادنا موفقة مباركة.
إننا هنا في جنوب أفريقيا نحیی نضال وكفاح الشعب الفلسطيني من أجل
حريته وكرامته واستقلاله.

وإننا على يقين من أن الشعب الفلسطيني الباسل ستتحقق أمنيته في
القريب العاجل - إن شاء الله -.

نحن نتمنى لفخامتكم الصحة والسعادة، وللشعب الفلسطيني كل تقدم
وازدهار.

فخامة الرئيس: أبو مازن.

إن زيارتكم المباركة لبلادنا تذكرنا بالآية الكريمة:

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

" سبحانه الذي أسرى بعبده ليلا من المسجد الحرام إلى المسجد الأقصى
الذي باركنا حوله للريه من آياتنا إنه هو السميع البصير"
صدق الله العظيم.

والسلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته.

(Translation of Arabic paragraph follows.)

[Your Excellency Mr President, Abu Mazen, Mahmoud Abbas, the President of Palestine,

May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon you.

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.

On behalf of the people and the government of South Africa, I welcome you to the National Assembly. I invoke the Protector, the Most Generous, to make your visit to our country successful and blessed.

Indeed, here in South Africa, we salute the striving and struggle of the Palestinian people towards their freedom, dignity and independence.

Indeed, we are sure that the courageous Palestinian people will achieve their hope in the near future, if Allah wills.

We hope good health, happiness for your Excellency, and improvement and prosperity for the Palestinian people.

Your Excellency Mr President, Abu Mazen, indeed your honourable visit to our country reminds us of the noble verse:

Glory to (Allah) Who did take His servant for a Journey by night from the Sacred Mosque to the farthest Mosque, whose precincts We did bless, in order that We might show him some of Our Signs: for He is the One Who heareth and seeth (all things).

Allah the Most Great has spoken the truth.

May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon you.]

[Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Before I call upon the hon the President, I wish to just briefly explain that we normally receive people like the President in the form of a Joint Sitting.

لقد وافقنا على خارطة الطريق التي أقرتها اللجنة الرباعية المشكلة من الأمم المتحدة وروسيا والاتحاد الأوروبي والولايات المتحدة الأمريكية، والتي أصبحت قراراً في مجلس الأمن الدولي رقم 1515، ولكن حكوم إسرائيل وضعت أربعة عشر تحفظاً على هذه الخطة، واعتمدت على قوتها ونفوذها لتواصل سياساتها التوسعية واضطهادها لشعبنا، وحاولت أن تروج في العالم مفهوم أنه لا وجود لشريك فلسطيني، للتفاوض معه، وأقرو وأكرر أمامكم، نحن على استعداد لبدء المفاوضات فوراً، ولتنفيذ قرارات الأمم المتحدة والاتفاقيات التي وقعناها وأن العقبة الحقيقية هي التعتن الإسرائيلي من جهة، وإحجام المجتمع الدولي عن التدخل بفاعلية حتى الآن من جهة أخرى.

لا يمكن، أيها السادة، القبول باستخدام التغيير الذي حدث عندنا نتيجة الانتخابات التشريعية الثانية، وفوق حركة حماس بأغلبية فيها، كذريعة، لمزيد من العدوان ضد شعبنا، ومعاقبته على خياره الديمقراطي، ومن ه فإننا ندعوكم، وندعو كل محبي الحرية والسلام في العالم، لبذل كل جهد ممكن مع القوى الدولية المؤثرة، لحم إسرائيل على وقف عدوانها، وتنفيذ الاتفاقات المبرمة، وكذلك قرارات الشرعية الدولية ذات الصلة، على ند يؤدي إلى إقامة دولتنا الفلسطينية المستقلة في كامل الأراضي التي تم احتلالها من قبل إسرائيل في حزيران 1967، وهي الضفة الغربية بما فيها القدس الشرقية وقطاع غزة، ليتسنى لنا الوصول إلى السلام المنشود.

الذي وحده يضمن الاستقرار لكافة شعوب المنطقة بما فيها إسرائيل، ويكفل لشعبنا التمتع بالعيش بحرية وكر وسيادة واستقلال على ترابه الوطني الفلسطيني.

معالي السيدة رئيسة الجمعية الوطنية

أصحاب السعادة

نُعلمنا تجربتكم بأن السلام ممكن عندما تتحقق العدالة والمساواة، وبأن القوة مهما عظمت واستبدت تستطيع أن تقضي على إرادة شعب، وعلى حقه في الحياة الحرة الكريمة في أرضه، ولذلك وبمقدار رغبتنا السلام مع جيراننا الإسرائيليين، ومد اليد لهم، فإننا متمسكون بحقوقنا في وطننا، حتى نصل إلى اليوم الذي ت لنا فيه دولتنا الحرة والمستقلة والديمقراطية، التي تعيش بسلام مع كل جيرانها بما فيها إسرائيل، وتسهم استقرار وازدهار منطقة الشرق الأوسط، تحقيقاً لرؤية الرئيس الأمريكي جورج بوش.

إن مواقف وسياسات حكومة جنوب أفريقيا بشأن قضايا حقوق الإنسان، ومناهضتها لكل الأساليب التي تخالف الحقوق الأساسية للشعوب، ودور جنوب أفريقيا في دعم وتعزيز الاستقرار السياسي والاقتصادي، والنزاعات في القارة الإفريقية، كل هذا وغيره، يمثل دوراً ريادياً لجنوب إفريقيا وقيادتها.

كما أن إنجازاتكم العظيمة والواضحة برفع الظلم عن الملايين من أبناء شعبكم منذ التغيير التاريخي، الذي حصل بالقضاء على الأبارتيد هو مثال يحتذى، حيث أدى إلى تحقيق استقرار اقتصادي وسياسي في ظل نظام ديمقراطي، يتمتع فيه كل مواطن بحريته، دون أي تمييز على أساس الدين أو اللون أو العرق.

السيدات والسادة

تعلمون، أيها الأصدقاء، أن شعبنا الفلسطيني قدم ولا يزال يقدم تضحيات جسيمة من أجل حريته، و يعيش الآن مرحلة صعبة وخطيرة جداً، حيث يتعرض لكل أشكال التعذيب والتنكيل والخنق والحصار والاستيلاء من قبل إسرائيل، قوة الاحتلال، التي تسعى من وراء كل ممارساتها العدوانية اللاشرعية ضد شعبنا إلى تكريس احتلالها واستيطانها لأرضنا ومقدساتنا وتدمير عملية السلام، وتقويض كل الفرص والجهود والمبادرات الدوا

والإقليمية الرامية لإحيائها، وإنهاء سلطتنا الوطنية، وإن ما جرى مؤخراً في مدينة أريحا والجريمة التي ارتكبتها القوات الإسرائيلية هناك من اختطاف لكل من كانوا في سجن أريحا لهو خير دليل على نوايا إسرائيل وضرب عرض الحائط بكل الاتفاقات الدولية الموقعة.

إن مشاركتكم الرأي والمشورة، أيها الأصدقاء الأعزاء، في هذه الظروف المعقدة في منطقتنا، هو شيء أساسي وهام جداً، ونحن على يقين تام، بأننا سنصل خلال لقاءنا الذي جرى اليوم مع فخامة الرئيس والصديق العزيز تابو مبيكي، وأعضاء حكومته الموقرة، إلى نقاط وقواسم مشتركة، نستطيع معها الدفع في اتجاه إحياء عملية السلام في منطقتنا، ومن جانبنا، فنحن معنيون بالتعرف على تجربتكم الرائدة بشكل يساعد في دفع العملية السياسية في الشرق الأوسط إلى الأمام، ونرحب بأي جهد يمكن أن تقوم به حكومتكم الموقرة، ونؤكد لكم بأننا ورغم كل ما نعانيه، سنظل كما كنا دعاة سلام حقيقي، نتعامل بمسئولية كاملة مع كل الجهود والمبادرات الدولية والإقليمية لإحياء مسيرة السلام وحمايتها، رغم تعطيل المسار التفاوضي من قبل إسرائيل، واستبداله بسياسات القبضة الحديدية، والسياسات أحادية الجانب التي نرفضها بقوة، ونطالب بوقفها فوراً كونها تسعى لرسم وتحديد خريطة الحل النهائي من جانب واحد.

we continue to co-ordinate our stances towards the various bilateral and international issues.

Indeed, the stance and policy of the Government of South Africa concerning human rights issues, its resistance to all ways which contradict the basic rights of all the people, besides the role of South Africa in supporting and consolidating political and economic stability, in addition to resolving the conflicts on the African continent—all of this represents a pioneering role for South Africa and its leadership.

Likewise, your clearly great accomplishments in lifting injustice from millions of your people since the historic change of abolishing the apartheid regime is a great example. This leads to the achievement of political and economic stability in light of a democratic regime, where every citizen enjoys his freedom, without any discrimination based on religion, colour or race.

Ladies and gentlemen, you know my friends, that the Palestinian people have made, and are still making great sacrifices for their freedom, and they now live in a difficult and serious stage; they are exposed to all forms of torture, suffocation, siege and resettlement by Israel. Israel is an occupation force, which seeks through all its illegal, aggressive practices against our people to confirm its occupation of and settling in our land, with its Holy Places; to destroy the peace process and undermine all opportunities, efforts and regional and international initiatives seeking to revive the peace process; and to end our National Authority. Indeed, what happened recently in the City of Jericho, the crime committed by the Israeli forces there by abducting everyone inside the Jericho Prison, is a true and prime example of Israeli intentions and its breach of all signed international agreements.

Indeed, dear friends, to share with you opinions and consultation is very important and essential during these complicated circumstances in the region, and we are com-

pletely certain that we will have arrived at mutual points of agreement during the meeting which was held today with President Thabo Mbeki and the members of his honourable government, and that we will be able, through these points of agreement, to push in the direction of reviving the peace process in the region. From our side, we are keen to study your pioneering experience in such a way as to push the political process in the Middle East forward; we also welcome any effort presented by your honourable government. We confirm, in spite of all we suffer, that we will continue to call for real peace, to deal with full responsibility with all international and regional efforts and initiatives to revive and protect the peace process, in spite of the negotiation process being disabled by Israel and replaced with the policy of the iron hand and unilateral policies which we strongly refuse; we demand that this be ceased immediately, as it seeks to draw and determine a unilateral final resolution map.

We have agreed to the Road Map, which was endorsed by the quartet including the United Nations, Russia, the European Union and the United States of America, and which became resolution number 1515 in the Security Council. However, the Israeli government has presented 14 reservations with regard to this plan, and depended on its strength and influence to continue its expansionist policy and its oppression against our people, and has even tried to promote internationally the notion that there is no Palestinian partner to negotiate with. I confirm and repeat in front of you that we are ready to start the negotiations immediately and to apply the UN resolutions and signed agreements. The real obstacle, on the one hand, is the Israeli stubbornness, and, on the other, the reluctance of the international community to date to intervene effectively.

It is not possible, ladies and gentlemen, to accept the use of the change that happened in Palestine as a result of the second legislative elections, and the majority victory of the

إننا بحاجة في ظل أوضاعنا الصعبة إلى دعمكم، وإلى دعم المجتمع الدولي، فحجم المعاناة لا يود سواء على المستوى الاقتصادي أم على مستوى حركة الأفراد، حيث يفرض ما يشبه المعازل على الفلسطينيين الذين يعيشون الآن في جزر تحاصرها المستوطنات أو قوات الجيش الإسرائيلي، وتُخصص شوارع للمستوطنين يمنع من استعمالها الفلسطيني، وأعتقد أن من زار فلسطين منكم، وشاهد حجم المعاناة، والتمييز والاضطهاد، قد تذكر أسوأ أيام التمييز العنصري التي كانت هنا في الماضي.

وقبل أن أختم كلمتي، أقول أنه قد أجريت الانتخابات الإسرائيلية، ونتمنى على الإسرائيليين أن يشكروا حكومتهم بسرعة وأن نجلس إلى طاولة المفاوضات بسرعة وألا نضيع الوقت.

أيها الأصدقاء، هنيئاً لكم بكل ما حققتموه، أيها الأشقاء، في جنوب أفريقيا، وعلى طريقكم نحن سائر من أجل الحرية والسيادة والاستقلال، وسنبقى معاً حتى يبرز فجر الحرية والسيادة على كل ركن من أركان عالمنا، وسندافع عن حرية غيرنا كما ندافع عن حريتنا.

عاشت جمهورية جنوب أفريقيا، وعاشت الصداقة بين شعبي جنوب أفريقيا وفلسطين.

[Applause.]

(Translation of Arabic speech follows.)

[In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful:

Hon Madam Speaker of the National Assembly, Your Excellency, President Thabo Mbeki, ladies and gentlemen, I would like to thank you for your kind invitation to speak today in front of the representatives of the people of South Africa, this great country which represents a model of the struggle to achieve equality between all its citizens, to all nations around the world; the country which abolished the apartheid regime, and continues to give its support to all freedom issues everywhere; the country which has with us, the people of Palestine, the strongest and closest relationships and ties; the country which we look at as an example to gain determination, in spite of all difficulties, to

continue our journey until we achieve a just peace in our region, obtain freely our right to self-determination, and establish an independent Palestinian State with its capital, Eastern Jerusalem.

Our dearest friends, members of Parliament, today, I pass on to you the greetings of our Palestinian people and greetings from the members of our National Assembly and our recently elected Legislative Council. I reiterate our appreciation for the depth and strength of the historical relationships between our two nations, which were founded and established by our dearest friend, the international and African struggler, President Nelson Mandela, and the martyr, President Yasser Arafat. These relationships are continuing now strongly with our brother and dearest friend, Thabo Mbeki, and his Government, whose advice we listen to, as

people, we reiterate our call to make the Middle East a nuclear-free zone.

In the words of the Freedom Charter, we embrace "peace, friendship amongst the people of the world". *Shukran*. [Thank you.] [Applause.]

The House adjourned at 12:28.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, TABLINGS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

National Assembly and National Council of Provinces

The Speaker and the Chairperson

1. Assent by President in respect of Bills

- (a) **Additional Adjustments Appropriation Bill** (2005-06 Financial Year) [B 4—2006]—Act No 1 of 2006 (assented to and signed by President on 30 March 2006).
- (b) **Division of Revenue Bill** [B 3B—2006]—Act No 2 of 2006 (assented to and signed by President on 31 March 2006).

TABLINGS

National Assembly and National Council of Provinces

1. The Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism

- (a) General Notice No 381 published in *Government Gazette* No 28591 dated 7 March 2006: Invitation to interested persons to submit names for vacancies on the Board of South African Tourism, in terms of the Tourism Act, 1993 (Act No 72 of 1993).
- (b) Government Notice No 298 published in *Government Gazette* No 28582 dated 3 March 2006: Karoo National Park: Exclusion of Land, in terms of the National Environ-

mental Management: Protected Areas Act, 2003 (Act No 57 of 2003).

- (c) Government Notice No 223 published in *Government Gazette* No 28618 dated 10 March 2006: Amendment of fees payable for the use of fishing harbour facilities (fishing harbour fees), in terms of the Marine Living Resources Act, 1998 (Act No 18 of 1998).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

National Assembly

1. Report of the Portfolio Committee on Defence on **Budget Vote 21—Defence and the Armscor Strategic Direction and Budget 2005-06**, dated 28 March 2006:

The Portfolio Committee on Defence, having considered and examined **Budget Vote 21—Defence and the Armscor Strategic Direction and Budget 2005-06**, reports that it has concluded its deliberations thereon.

2. **Annual Report of the Portfolio Committee on Science and Technology**

JANUARY-DECEMBER 2005

DATE—7 MARCH 2006

1. **Name of the Committee: Science and Technology**

Chairperson: Mr E N N Ngcobo

Committee Secretary: Zelna Jansen

2. **Chairperson's overview**

The Committee was able to work well together as a team. There was a great deal of transparency, efficiency and co-operation throughout. Discussions in the Committee were often robust, but frank and fair.

Hamas movement, as a means for extra aggression against our people, and as a means to punish them for their democratic choice. From here, we call on you, and we call on all freedom and peace-loving people in the world, to exert every possible effort with the influential international powers, to force Israel to stop its aggression and apply the adopted agreements and all relevant international legitimate resolutions in a way that leads towards the establishment of our independent Palestinian state in all lands occupied by Israel in June 1967, which is the West Bank including eastern Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip, in order to achieve the desired peace, which can guarantee stability for all people in the region, including the Israelis, and guarantee to our people the enjoyment of living freely, with dignity, sovereignty and independently on the Palestinian national land.

Hon Madam Speaker of the National Assembly, hon Members of Parliament, your experience has taught us that peace is possible when justice and equality are achieved, and that force cannot destroy the will of the people or its right to a generous, free life on its land, regardless of strength and tyranny. However, as much as we desire to achieve peace with our Israeli neighbours, and extend our hands to them, we are sticking to our rights in our country, until we reach the day when we establish our democratic, free and independent country, which lives in peace with all its neighbours, including Israel, and contributes to the stability and prosperity of the Middle East region, to achieve the vision of the American President George W Bush.

Indeed, in the light of our difficult situations, we need your support, and the support of the international community. The magnitude of suffering cannot be described, whether on the economic level or the level of individual movement, where Israel imposes procedures on the Palestinians to make them live in enclaves surrounded by the settlements or Israeli armed forces. They assign special streets to the settlers, preventing the Palestinians from using them. I believe that whoever of you have visited Palestine, and

witnessed the magnitude of suffering, discrimination, injustice and oppression, will have remembered the worst days of apartheid, which dominated here in the past.

Before I end my speech, I would like to say that the Israeli elections were held recently. We hope the Israelis will be able to form their government quickly, then we can sit together quickly at the negotiating table and not waste any time.

Dear friends, congratulations on everything you have achieved. Our brothers in South Africa, we will walk the same route towards freedom, sovereignty and independence. We will stay together until freedom and sovereignty rule over every corner of our world; we will defend the freedom of others as we defend our freedom.

Viva South Africa, Viva! Viva the friendship between the people of South Africa and Palestine, Viva!]

VOTE OF THANKS TO PRESIDENT OF PALESTINE

Mrs N B GXOWA: Madam Speaker, Madam Deputy Speaker, His Excellency President Abbas, and Mr President, I am honoured to extend a vote of thanks to the esteemed leader of the people of Palestine, His Excellency President Abbas.

Your address in this august House has evoked memories of the enduring relationship between the people of Palestine and South Africa. We are united by common bonds of solidarity in pursuit of national sovereignty and international peace.

We wish to assure His Excellency President Abbas of our unwavering support in pursuit of a just resolution of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict on the basis of the UN resolutions. In our humble opinion, nothing should stand in the way of the peaceful resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The democratic government of South Africa unilaterally dismantled nuclear weapons. From the rostrum of the tribune of our

- Objectives of the trip

- * To visit and monitor the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and Entities funded by the Department, including poverty alleviation projects.

- Dates

- * 1-5 August 2005

- Delegation

- * Mr. E N N Ngcobo (Chairperson) (ANC)
- Mr. A R Ainslie (ANC)
- Prof. I J Mohamed (ANC)
- Ms. F Mahomed (ANC)
- Mr. S N Nxumalo (ANC)
- Mr. J Ramrock (Committee Secretary)

- Province, places visited

- * Northern Cape Province and Eastern Cape Province

- Report (when was it adopted by the committee)

- * 15 November 2005

- Debate in the House

- * No Debate will be held

(ii) Study Tour Visits to the Gauteng Provinces

- Objectives of the trip

- * To visit and monitor the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and Entities funded by the Department, including poverty alleviation projects.

- Dates

- * 15-19 August 2005

- Delegation

- * Mr. E N N Ngcobo (Chairperson) (ANC)

Mr. A R Ainslie (ANC)

Prof. I J Mohamed (ANC)

Ms. F Mahomed (ANC)

Mr. S N Nxumalo (ANC)

Mr. A Mlangeni (ANC)

Mr. P Nefolovhodwe (AZAPO)

Mr. B Mnyandu (DA)

Mr. J Ramrock (Committee Secretary)

Ms. N Borothe (Committee Assistant).

- Province, places visited

- * Gauteng Provinces

- Report (when was it adopted by the committee)

- * 15 November 2005

- Debate in the House

- * No Debate will be held

9. International Visits:

- Objectives of each trip (not more than a paragraph)

- * Conference in Budapest on Science, Technology and Innovation Policy. Purpose of conference were to examine the role of Parliaments in Science, Technology and Innovation process as well as challenges and constraints faced in the context of increasing complexities in decision making and opportunities for science to contribute towards sustainable development.

- Dates

- * 9, 10, 11 and 12 November 2005

3. Vision and mission of the committee

The **Mission** of the Committee is to constantly perform a monitoring and oversight role by engaging the Department of Science and Technology and various stakeholders in their progress and development.

The **Vision** of the Committee is to ensure real and sustainable improvement in the quality of lives of all South Africans by making science and technology the engine of socio-economic growth in our society.

4. List of public entities over which the committee exercises oversight

- Department of Science and Technology (DST)
- Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)
- Human Science Research Council (HSRC)
- National Research Foundation (NRF)
- Africa Institute of South Africa (AISA)
- Godisa Trust
- Tshumisano Trust
- Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf)
- National Advisory Council on Innovation (NACI)

5. Number of meetings held and those cancelled

- 20, None cancelled

6. Legislation referred to the committee (Finalised and not finalised): indicate the following:

- No legislation was referred to the Committee

7. Papers (International Agreements,

Protocols, Reports etc) referred to the Committee: indicate the following:

(i) Statute of the Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned Movement and Other Developing Countries

- Referral date

*10 June 2005

- Consideration date by the committee

*21 June 2005

- Report publication (ATC date)

*23 June 2005

- Debate in the House

*No Debate

(ii) Accession of South Africa's Membership of the International Centre for Scientific and Technical Information (ICSTI)

- Date Committee was briefed

* 11 October 2005

- Referral date

* 19 October 2005

- Consideration date by the committee

*19 October 2005

- Report publication (ATC date)

*8 November 2005

- Debate in the House / Consideration of Request for Approval by Parliament

*15 November 2005

8. Oversight (Local) visits

(i) Study Tour Visits to the Northern Cape Province, Eastern Cape Province

(iii) Conference on "Human Resource for Knowledge Production in South Africa"

• **Date**

* 23 to 24 June 2005

• **Agenda**

* The Conference was directed at finding practical solutions to the problem of human resource development and knowledge production.

• **Presenters if any**

* Professor De Le Ray of UCT

* Dr R Adam—Director-General, Department of Science and Technology

* President of CSIR—India

* Dr S Sibisi—President of CSIR—South Africa

* Dr K Mokhele—CEO of NRF

* Many other overseas experts

• **Hosted by**

* Ministry of Science and Technology and Ministry of Education

• **Recommendations**

* Focus should be on recruitment and retention of masters, doctoral and post doctoral graduates to create a more flexible and responsive workforce able to achieve mastery of new domains of technology.

* Promote collaboration and development of partnerships between universities, science councils and industry to maximise overall institutional research development capabilities to achieve a critical mass of researchers across institutions and to support the national Research and Development agenda.

ilities to achieve a critical mass of researchers across institutions and to support the national Research and Development agenda.

* Ensure that knowledge is optimised by focused attention to more strategic development of PhD graduates including the optimising, funding and managing of the environment in which students operate such as explicit development of research skills, development of better supervisor support and more appropriate funding for full time students.

* Ensure the prioritisation of Research and Development is informed by national goals and imperatives.

* Enhancing Research and Development funding.

* Secure the most rapid and sustainable development of the continent and improvement of the quality of life of its people through political leadership at the highest level in order to prioritise the mainstreaming of science and technology through the African Union, NEPAD and multilateral programmes.

* Globalisation of research.

(iv) Youth into Science Strategy

• **Date**

* 25 to 26 October 2005

• **Agenda**

* To address some of the challenges identified by the Status of Youth Report 2005.

- Delegation
 - * One Member, Mr J B Mnyandu (ANC)
- Country, places visited
 - * Budapest, Hungary
- Report (when was it adopted)
 - * Informal report in the form of Member briefing the Committee, during the first term. Date to be finalised by the Committee.
- Report publication (ATC date), if not published why?
 - * Briefing the Committee only
- Debate in the House
 - * Not applicable

10. Budget Vote

- Referral date
 - * 27 January 2005
- Briefing by department (date)
 - * 14 June 2005
- Report publication (ATC date)
 - * 15 June 2005

11. Annual reports of the Executive (30 September)

- Referral date
 - * 20 October 2005
- Briefing by department (date)
 - * 11 October 2005
- Report publication (ATC date)
 - * 8 November 2005

12. Other committee activities (briefings on other issues, workshops, conferences)

(i) National Science Week/Launch of Centres of Excellence

- Date
 - * 7 to 14 May 2005
- Agenda
 - * To create awareness of the important role that science play in our daily lives.
 - * To encourage our youth to consider studying and improving their performance in mathematics and science.
 - * To attract more youth into science, engineering and technology careers.
- Hosted by
 - * Department of Science and Technology
- Resolutions
 - * None

(ii) Genetically Modified Organisms

- Date
 - * 31 May 2005
- Agenda
 - * BioPAD Presentation on Implementation of the National Biotechnology Strategy
- Presenters if any
 - * Dr W Stanford of the Advanced Research Centre for Applied Microbiology at UWC
- Mr G Ashton of Safe Age
 - * Bishop Geoff Davies of Ecumenical Environmental Institute
- Resolutions
 - * None

- Date
 - * 10 November 2005
- Agenda
 - * Launch of SALT
- Hosted by
 - * Department of Science and Technology
 - * National Research Foundation
- Keynote Speakers
 - * President Thabo Mbeki
 - * Minister for Science and Technology, Mr Mangena
 - * Portfolio Committee was represented by Chairperson
- Resolutions
 - * None

(viii) Workshop on International Scientific and Technological Co-operation for Sustainable Development

- Date
 - * 21 to 22 November 2005
- Agenda
 - * The workshop was a follow-up on a report given by South Africa on the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) held in 2002.
 - * To identify good practices in international science and technology co-operation, especially between OECD and developing countries, aiming at fostering capacity-building in science and technology; facilitating effective diffusion of scientific knowledge and technology transfer; and, develop-

ing knowledge infrastructure and networks, in order to meet sustainable development objectives at national and global levels. Such good practices include highlighting concrete and efficient solutions that have been implemented in the areas of water and energy.

- Hosted by
 - * Department of Science and Technology and OECD
- Resolutions
 - * None

13. Budget of the committee

- How much was allocated to the committee
 - * R470 008
- Expenditure:

Catering	R18 512,90
Provincial Visits	R269 233,80
Overseas Trips	R48 830
Conferences	R0
Seminars	
Workshops	R0
- Balance
 - R79 701,20

14. Outstanding Matters:

- * Adoption of Annual Report of Committee
- * Adoption of Minutes of 15 November 2005

15. Attach the following documents

- i. Master attendance list
- ii. Copies of minutes of all meetings
- iii. Copies of the reports of all oversight of international visits
- iv. Copy of Budget statement

- Hosted by
 - * Youth Division of Department of Science and Technology
- Keynote Speakers
 - * Deputy Minister of the Ministry for Science and Technology
 - * Chairperson: PC Science and Technology
- Recommendations
 - * Provide an environment that is conducive to attracting majority of, especially previously disadvantaged youth, to enter science, technology, engineering and mathematics careers with ongoing support to establish themselves in the National System of Innovation.
 - * Improve the identified shortcomings with a view to equipping youth with knowledge, skills, values and attitudes that will enable them to adapt, participate and succeed in an economically complex society.
 - * To enhance science and technology literacy among the public in general and the youth in particular.
 - * Nurturing youth talent and potential for science and technology based careers: To enrol a more representative youth with talent and potential into science and technology based careers.

(v) Awards Ceremony held by Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf)

- Date
 - * 28 October 2005
- Agenda
 - * Awards Ceremony of ASSAf
- Hosted by
 - * ASSAf
- Keynote Speaker
 - * Minister of Science and Technology
 - * Chairperson: P C for Science and Technology
- Recommendations
 - * Stronger support of ASSAf activities by DST and provinces.

(vi) Computer Science Model

- Date
 - * 8 November 2005
- Agenda
 - * Briefing on Computer Model on Easy Science
- Presenters if any
 - * Professor Van Wyk of University of Pretoria
 - * Ms P Moodley—Chairperson, Eskom Expo
 - * Mr L Mphahlele—Manager: Science and Youth, Department of Science and Technology
- Recommendations
 - * Stakeholders must work together to achieve common goal of making science attractive to students and the community.

(vii) Southern African Large Telescope (SALT)

16. SUPPORT STAFF

Committee Secretary: Ms Z Jansen

Control Committee Secretary: Mr T Madima

Committee Assistant: Ms N Borotho

Secretary to Chairperson: Mrs B Walters

Researcher (*Research Unit*): None

.....
 COMMITTEE SECRETARY DATE

.....
 CONTROL COMMITTEE SECRETARY DATE

.....
 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON DATE

3. Report of the Portfolio Committee on Communications on the Final Acts of the Plenipotentiary Conference in Marrakesh, Morocco in 2002 of the International Telecommunications Union, dated 31 March 2006:

The Portfolio Committee on Communications, having considered the request for approval by Parliament of the Final Acts of the Plenipotentiary Conference in Marrakesh, Morocco in 2002 of the International Telecommunications Union, referred to it, recommends that the House, in terms of section 231(2) of the Constitution, approve the said Final Acts.

Report to be considered.

BHENGU, Mr F:

Bill:

Appropriation,

Vote—Public Works, 1297(92)

BHENGU, Ms P:

Question for Oral Reply:

Consolidation of democracy and acceleration of integrated service delivery, (Question put to President), 1383(92)

BHOOLA, Mr R B:

Bills:

Additional Adjustments Appropriation, (1R), 616(92)

Appropriation,

Votes—Agriculture, 1040(92); Land Affairs, 1096(92); Trade and Industry, 1272(92)

Debate:

Human rights are people's rights: Developments in South Africa, 903(92)

BICI, Mr J:

Bills:

Additional Adjustments Appropriation, (1R), 614(92)

Appropriation, (1R), 646(92)

BLANCHÉ, Mr J P I:

Bill:

Appropriation,

Vote—Public Works, 1343(92)

BOINAMO, Mr G G:

Debate:

President's state of the nation address, 105(92)

BOOI, Mr M S:

Bill:

Appropriation,

Vote—Defence, 1489(92)

BOTHA, Ms N G W:

[Deputy Minister of Arts and Culture]

Minister's Response:

Tenth anniversary of Constitution, 355(92)

BUTHELEZI, Prince M G:

Debate:

President's state of the nation address, 23(92)

CARRIM, Mr Y I:

Question for Oral Reply:

Problems experienced at Koeberg power station, (Question put to President), 1393(92)

EXPLANATORY NOTE:

In view of the fact that bound volumes will henceforth be published on a quarterly basis, the number in parentheses directly after the column reference number indicates the number of the volume in which the relevant information may be found.

INDEX TO SPEECHES

Abbreviations: AhC = Ad hoc Committee; AhJC = Ad hoc Joint Committee; JBC = Joint Budget Committee; JC = Joint Committee; JMC = Joint Monitoring Committee; JPC = Joint Programming Committee; JPSC = Joint Programming Subcommittee; JR = Joint Rule; JSC = Joint Standing Committee; JTM = Joint Tagging Mechanism; NA = National Assembly; NCOP = National Council of Provinces; NHTL = National House of Traditional Leaders; PC = Portfolio Committee; RC = Rules Committee; SC = Select Committee; StC = Standing Committee

ABBAS, His Excellency Dr M:

[President of the State of Palestine]

Address by the President of the State of Palestine, 1508(92)

ABRAM, Mr S:

Bill:

Appropriation,

Votes—Agriculture, 1109(92); Land Affairs, 1109(92)

ASIYA, Mr S E:

Member's Statement:

Citizens optimistic about the future of South Africa, 546(92)

BALFOUR, Mr M B N:

[Minister of Correctional Services]

Minister's Response:

Dealing with crime, 1033(92)

BAPELA, Mr K O:

Debate:

President's state of the nation address, 296(92)

BATYI, Ms F:

Bill:

Appropriation,

Vote—Social Development, 978(92)

BEKKER, Mr H J:

Bill:

Appropriation, (1R), 636(92)

BENJAMIN, Dr J:

[Deputy Minister of Social Development]

Bill:

Appropriation,

Vote—Social Development, 981(92)

BHAMJEE, Mr Y S:

Bill:

Division of Revenue, (2R), 532(92)

Minister's Responses:

Improving educational opportunities and support for priority skills, 1035(92)
Restitution of land, 349(92)

DIKO, Mr M:

Bill:

Appropriation, (1R), 827(92)

Debate:

President's state of the nation address, 99(92)

DIREKO, Ms I W:

Bill:

Older Persons, (2R), 852(92)

DITSHETLO, Mr P H K:

Bill:

Appropriation,

Votes—Agriculture, 1093(92); Land Affairs, 1093(92)

DLALI, Mr D M:

Bills:

Appropriation, (1R), 809(92)

Votes—Agriculture, 1065(92); Land Affairs, 1065(92)

DLAMINI-ZUMA, Dr N C:

[Minister of Foreign Affairs]

Debate:

President's state of the nation address, 218(92)

DODOVU, Mr T S:

Debate:

President's state of the nation address, 62(92)

DOMAN, Mr W P:

Member's Statements:

Election of Western Cape Metro government, 1018(92)

Extension of contract of Cape Town municipal manager, 542(92)

DUDLEY, Mrs C:

Bills:

Appropriation,

Votes—Agriculture, 1078(92); Land Affairs, 1078(92); Social Development, 979(92); Trade and Industry, 1254(92)

Older Persons, (2R), 859(92)

Notice of Motion, 947(92)

Question for Oral Reply:

Problems experienced at Koeberg power station, (Question put to President), 1394(92)

CHIKUNGA, Mrs L S:

Debate:

President's state of the nation address, 102(92)

COETZEE, Mr R:

Debate:

President's state of the nation address, 250(92)

CRONIN, Mr J P:

Debate:

President's state of the nation address, 78(92)

CUPIDO, Mr H B:

Bills:

Additional Adjustments Appropriation, (1R), 614(92)

Appropriation,

Vote—Defence, 1469(92)

DAVIDSON, Mr I O:

Bills:

Appropriation, (1R), 626(92)

Division of Revenue, (2R), 521(92)

Member's Statement:

DA's alternative budget: Jobs, growth and delivery, 332(92)

DAVIES, Dr R H:

[Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry]

Bill:

Appropriation,

Vote—Trade and Industry, 1245(92)

DE LILLE, Mrs P:

Debate:

President's state of the nation address, 51(92)

DELPORTE, Dr J T:

Debate:

President's state of the nation address, 66(92)

Notice of Motion, 1213(92)

DHLAMINI, Mr B W:

Question for Oral Reply:

Consolidation of democracy and acceleration of integrated service delivery, (Question put to President), 1388(92)

DIDIZA, Mrs A T:

[Minister for Agriculture and Land Affairs]

Bill:

Appropriation, (1R), 632(92)

Votes—Agriculture, 1040(92), 1116(92); Land Affairs, 1040(92), 1116(92)

South African medal winners congratulated on their achievements at the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne, 947(92)

Trawler *Umlindi* capsized near Slangkop lighthouse, 1215(92)

Motions of Condolence:

The late Mrs Coretta Scott King, 328(92)

The late Dr A E Rupert, 327(92)

The late King Xolilizwe Sigcau, 329(92)

GORE, Mr V C:

Member's Statement:

ID policy vs DA policy, 335(92)

GREEN, Mr L M:

Bills:

Appropriation, (1R), 828(92)

Older Persons, (2R), 872(92)

Debate:

President's state of the nation address, 259(92)

Member's Statement:

Illegal practice of bulking pension funds, 1024(92)

GREYLING, Mr L W:

Bill:

Appropriation,

Votes—Agriculture, 1077(92); Land Affairs, 1077(92)

Debate:

Human rights are people's rights: Developments in South Africa, 893(92)

Member's Statement:

Power outages in Western Cape, 1021(92)

Question for Oral Reply:

Consequences of electricity outages in Western Cape, (Question put to President), 1419(92),

GROENEWALD, Mr P J:

Bill:

Appropriation,

Votes—Agriculture, 1085(92); Defence, 1474(92); Land Affairs, 1085(92)

GUMEDE, Mrs D M:

Bill:

Older Persons, (2R), 867(92)

GXOWA, Mrs N B:

Bill:

Appropriation, (1R), 667(92)

Vote of thanks to President of Palestine, 1518(92)

HAJAIG, Ms F:

Question for Oral Reply:

Report by International Atomic Energy Agency on Islamic Republic of Iran, (Question put to President), 1402(92)

DU TOIT, Adv D C:*[Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Land Affairs]*

Bill:

Appropriation,

Votes—Agriculture, 1079(92); Land Affairs, 1079(92)

ELLIS, Mr M J:

Member's Statement:

ANC candidate caught with 75 DA election posters, 547(92)

FRASER-MOLEKETI, Mrs G J:*[Minister for the Public Service and Administration]*

Debate:

President's state of the nation address, 36(92)

Minister's Responses:

Acquisition of scarce skills, 356(92)

Definition of South African in Freedom Charter, 356(92)

FUBBS, Ms J L:

Bills:

Appropriation, (1R), 641(92)

Division of Revenue, (2R), 526(92)

GIBSON, Mr D H M:*[Chief Whip of the Opposition]*

Debate:

President's state of the nation address, 300(92)

Draft Resolution:

Sympathy with fire victims in central Johannesburg, 1215(92)

Member's Statement:

Travelgate, 343(92)

Questions for Oral Reply:

Consolidation of democracy and acceleration of integrated service delivery, (Question put to President), 1387(92)

Report by International Atomic Energy Agency on Islamic Republic of Iran, (Question put to President), 1410(92)

GOGOTYA, Mr N J:

Bill:

Appropriation,

Vote—Public Works, 1331(92)

GOLOLO, Mr C L:

Bill:

Additional Adjustments Appropriation, (1R), 617(92)

GONIWE, Mr M T:*[Chief Whip of the Majority Party]*

Draft Resolutions:

Passing away of the mother of the Minister of Home Affairs, 1501(92)

KING, Mr R J:

Member's Statement:

Violent crime has become part of everyday South African life, 551(92)
Notice of Motion, 1213(92)**KOMPHELA, Mr B M:**

Debate:

President's state of the nation address, 255(92)

KONDLO, Ms N C:

Appropriation, (1R), 687(92)

KOORNHOF, Dr G W:

Bill:

Appropriation,
Vote—Defence, 1478(92)

Debate:

President's state of the nation address, 261(92)

LABUSCHAGNE, Mr L B:

Bill:

Appropriation,
Vote—Trade and Industry, 1274(92)**LEE, Mr T D:**

Debate:

President's state of the nation address, 225(92)

LEKOTA, Mr M G P:*[Minister of Defence]*

Bill:

Appropriation,
Vote—Defence, 1433(92), 1496(92)

Debate:

President's state of the nation address, 187(92)

Minister's Response:

Crime syndicates and dealing with corruption, 1032(92)

LEON, Mr A J:*[Leader of the Opposition]*

Debate:

President's state of the nation address, 8(92)

LIKOTSI, Mr M T:

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PAC councillors to add value at local government level, 546(92)

HANGANA, Ms N E:*[Deputy Minister for Provincial and Local Government]*

Minister's Responses:

Extension of contract of Cape Town municipal manager, 558(92)

Speeding up of service delivery, 558(92)

HARDING, Mr A:

Bill:

Appropriation,

Vote—Trade and Industry, 1253(92)

HOLOMISA, Mr B H:

Debate:

President's state of the nation address, 44(92)

Questions for Oral Reply:

Report by International Atomic Energy Agency on Islamic Republic of Iran, (Question put to President), 1407(92)

Right of Israel to exist within safe and secure borders, (Question put to President), 1418(92)

HOLOMISA, Adv S P:

Debate:

President's state of the nation address, 93(92)

JACOBUS, Ms L:*[Deputy Minister of Correctional Services]*

Bill:

Appropriation, (1R), 649(92)

JANKIELSOHN, Mr R:

Member's Statement:

Irregularities in tender procedures by senior ANC members, 1025(92)

JOHNSON, Ms C B:

Member's Statement:

Water to be used optimally, 1029(92)

JOHNSON, Mr M:

Bill:

Appropriation, (1R), 655(92)

KASIENYANE, Ms O R:

Member's Statement:

Launch of Expanded Public Works Programme project in Modimong village, 348(92)

KGANYAGO, Prof N M:*[Deputy Minister of Public Works]*

Bill:

Appropriation,

Vote—Public Works, 1315(92)

MAINE, Ms M S:

Debate:

Human rights are people's rights: Developments in South Africa, 887(92)

MAKASI, Mrs X C:

Bill:

Appropriation,

Vote—Social Development, 966(92)

MALAHLELA, Mr M J:

Debate:

Human rights are people's rights: Developments in South Africa, 894(92)

MALULEKE, Mr D K:

Debate:

President's state of the nation address, 290(92)

MANUEL, Mr T A:

[Minister of Finance]

Bills:

Additional Adjustments Appropriation, (1R), 619(92)

Adjustments Appropriation, (I), 465(92)

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Division of Revenue, (2R), 511(92), 538(92)

Minister's Response:

2006 Progressive Governance Summit, 553(92)

MAPISA-NQAKULA, Ms N N:

[Minister of Home Affairs]

Debate:

President's state of the nation address, 195(92)

MARS, Mrs I:

Bills:

Appropriation,

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Older Persons, (2R), 856(92)

MARTINS, Mr B A D:

Bill:

Appropriation, (1R), 647(92)

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MASUTHA, Mr T M:

Bills:

Appropriation,

Vote—Social Development, 1004(92)

Older Persons, (2R), 873(92)

LOWE, Mr C M:

Member's Statement:

Skills revolution required for SA to reach 6% growth rate, 1030(92)

LUCAS, Mr E J:

Bill:

Appropriation,

Votes—Agriculture, 1070(92); Land Affairs, 1070(92)

LUTHULI, Dr A N:

Question for Oral Reply:

Right of Israel to exist within safe and secure borders, (Question put to President), 1416(92)

MAAKE, Mr J J:

Bill:

Appropriation,

Vote—Trade and Industry, 1265(92)

MABANDLA, Mrs B S:

[Minister for Justice and Constitutional Development]

Minister's Response:

The murder of Musa Masondo, 555(92)

MABE, Ms L L:

Bill:

Appropriation, (1R), 661(92)

Question for Oral Reply:

Impact of Asgisa on nonaffluent societies, (Question put to President), 1401(92)

MADIKIZA, Mr G T:

Bill:

Appropriation,

Vote—Defence, 1462(92)

MADUMA, Mr L D:

Bill:

Appropriation,

Vote—Public Works, 1310(92)

MAGAU, Ms K R:

Debate:

Human rights are people's rights: Developments in South Africa, 899(92)

MAGWANISHE, Mr G B:

Debate:

Human rights are people's rights: Developments in South Africa, 904(92)

MAHLANGU-NKABINDE, Ms G L:

[Deputy Speaker]

Ruling, 1427(92)

MESHOE, Rev K R J:

Debates:

Human rights are people's rights: Developments in South Africa, 893(92)
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Question for Oral Reply:

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 1412(92)

MFUNDISI, Mr I S:

Bill:

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Debates:

Human rights are people's rights: Developments in South Africa, 898(92)
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Member's Statement:

Mmabana Cultural Centre and its successes, 1022(92)

MGABADELI, Ms H C:

Debate:

President's state of the nation address, 54(92)

MNCWANGO, Mr M A:

Debate:

President's state of the nation address, 236(92)

MNGOMEZULU, Mr G P:

Bill:

Appropriation,
Vote—Defence, 1454(92)

MOGASE, Mr I D:

Debate:

Human rights are people's rights: Developments in South Africa, 881(92)

MOKOTO, Ms N R:

Bill:

Appropriation, (1R), 680(92)

MOLEKETI, Mr P J:

Bill:

Appropriation,
Vote—Defence, 1463(92)

MOLOTO, Mr K A:

Bill:

Appropriation, (1R), 830(92)

MONARENG, Mr O E:

Bill:

Appropriation,
Vote—Defence, 1482(92)

MATSEMELA, Ms M L:

Bill:

Appropriation,
Vote—Defence, 1460(92)

MAUNYE, Mrs M M:

Member's Statement:

Elections in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, 1020(92)

MBEKI, Mr T M:*[The President of the Republic of South Africa]*

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Questions for Oral Reply:

Consequences of electricity outages in Western Cape, 1419(92)

Consolidation of democracy and acceleration of integrated service delivery, 1383(92)

Impact of Asgisa on nonaffluent societies, 1396(92)

Problems experienced at Koeberg power station, 1390(92)

Report by International Atomic Energy Agency on Islamic Republic of Iran, 1402(92)

Right of Israel to exist within safe and secure borders, 1412(92)

MBETE, Ms B:*[Speaker]*

Announcements:

Copy of address of President of the Republic, 1(92)

Welcoming of President of Palestine, 1503(92)

MDAKA, Ms N M:

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MUFAMADI, Mr F S:*[Minister for Provincial and Local Government]*

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RADEBE, Mr J T:*[Minister of Transport]*

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[Minister of Social Development]

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XINGWANA, Ms L M:

[Deputy Minister of Minerals and Energy]

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WEBER, Ms H:

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