

QUESTION 1905.

Mr S J F Marais (DA) to ask the Minister of Energy:

Whether she has employed a ministerial special advisor; if so, (a) what are the duties of the advisor, (b) at which post level was the appointment made, (c) what is the salary level of the advisor, (d) what is the duration of the employment contract entered into with the advisor and (e) why was it necessary to appoint this advisor? NW2143E

Reply

Yes. A national Cabinet Minister may employ two special advisors.

(a) The appointment of special advisors to executive authorities is regulated by section 12A of the Public Service Act, 1994 and the dispensation approved by the national Cabinet in terms of section 12A. The Minister has appointed one special advisor in terms of Public Service Act (section 12A):

<!--[if !supportLists]-->· <!--[endif]-->To advise the Executive Authority on the exercise or performance of the Executive Authority's powers and duties;

<!--[if !supportLists]-->· <!--[endif]-->To advise the Executive Authority on the development of policy that will promote the relevant department's objectives; or

<!--[if !supportLists]-->· <!--[endif]-->To perform such other tasks as may be appropriate in respect of the Executive authority's powers and duties.

(b) The Cabinet approved dispensation for the appointment and remuneration of special advisors sets out the different compensation levels that are applicable to special advisors.

In determining a compensation level for a special advisor the individual's level of expertise and the stature in the particular field are taken in to account. The Dispensation provides for the following four different levels of compensation in order to accommodate different levels of expertise:

(a) Compensation level (I) (Director level in public service)

(i) Enjoys noticeable national recognition as a competent expert.

- (ii) Complexity advice to be rendered comparable to that given by a Director (Senior Management Service Grade A) in the Public Service.
- (b) Compensation level (II) (Chief Director level in public service)
 - (i) Enjoys recognition as a competent expert at a national level.
 - (ii) Complexity of advice to be rendered comparable to that given by a Chief Director (Senior Management Service Grade B) in the Public Service.
- (c) Compensation level (III) (Deputy Director-General level in public service)
 - (i) Enjoys recognition as a competent expert at national and to some degree at international level
 - (ii) Complexity of advice to be given comparable to that given by the Deputy Director-General (Senior Management Service Grade C) in the Public Service.
- (d) Compensation level (IV) (Director-General level in public service)
 - (i) Enjoys recognition as a competent expert at national and international level;
 - (ii) To appoint and retain persons with very high level skills and/or skills.
 - (ii) Complexity of advice to be rendered is comparable to that given by a Director-General (Senior Management Service Grade D) in the Public Service.
- (c) The Special Advisor is compensated according to Compensation level IV as stated above because he enjoys recognition as VI and the complexity of advise rendered is comparable to VI
- (d) The duration of the contract has been agreed upon between the special advisor and the Executive Authority. Regardless of the contract period, the contract will terminate at the end of the month following the month that the Executive Authority vacates office for any reason.
- (e) To advise and perform other tasks for the Executive Authority (as provided for in section 12A of the Public Service Act) with respect to her portfolio, in the individual/s area of expertise.

