



# water affairs

Department:  
Water Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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**MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 1158 FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

A draft reply to the above question asked by Mr N J van den Berg (DA) is attached for your consideration.

**DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)**

DATE: 2013/06/27

**DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED**

**MRS B E E MOLEWA, MP  
MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

DATE: 2013/06/27

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 1158

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 17 May 2013  
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 16)

1158. Mr N J van den Berg (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

(a) What total amount have (i) her departments and (ii) each specified entity reporting to her spent on conferences in the (aa) 2009-10, (bb) 2010-11, (cc) 2011-12 and (dd) 2012-13 financial years and (b) what (i) amount was spent on, and (ii) is the breakdown of the expenditure for, each specified conference? NW1393E

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**REPLY:**

It is not practical to provide accurate responses to question no. 1158. The department will need to appoint auditors to fully retrieve and analyse the figures for periods far back as four financial years. Informed by the fact that it takes two months for External Auditors to audit a sample for one financial year with associated costs to be incurred.

The department and its Public Entities capacity is geared towards 2012/13 audit preparations which start from 1<sup>st</sup> June until 31<sup>st</sup> July 2013. Simultaneously the same personnel is required to deliver the services as approved in annual plan of operation.

A further complication in undertaking the task is that itemisation framework in BAS-Chart of Accounts refers to a broad category on venues and facilities which includes conferences, meetings, accommodation, etc which makes the breakdown impossible without a full audit assessment of source documents.