



agriculture, forestry & fisheries

Department:
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Honourable S Masango (MP)
Chairperson
Portfolio Committee on International Relations and Cooperation
PO Box 15
Cape Town
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Dear Honourable Masango

BRIEFING TO THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND COOPERATION

The Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries' hereby presents the inputs on the Foreign Service Bill to the Portfolio Committee on International Relations and Cooperation.

The delegation from the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries will be forwarded to the Honourable Chairperson in due course.

I trust this is in order.

Yours respectfully

MR RM RAMASODI
ACTING DIRECTOR GENERAL
DATE : 2017 - 10 - 26



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DAFF INPUTS TOWARDS FOREIGN SERVICE BILL

The Bill is now extremely water down. It is no longer clear what is trying to address:

General comments:

Comments	Proposal
1: The Foreign Service Bill is silent on budget issues / financing	The Bill needs to outline funding arrangements to provide for the establishment of a single foreign service for the Republic of South Africa; for the administration and functioning of the Foreign Service; for the operational provisions that are suitable and supportive of the operations
2: The Bill talks about the Ambassador as in charge of Missions however it is not clear how Attaches report and account to their respective departments.	Since the Bill seeks to provide for the establishment of a single foreign service for the Republic of South Africa; Attaches from partner departments needs to fully report to the Heads of Mission to ensure integrated planning and service delivery.
3: Director General: DIRCO approves appointments / posting of officials. Can the DIRCO Director General rejects an official from a partner department for example?	Propose that partner departments identify suitably qualified employees for recommendation to DIRCO for appointment for Foreign Service
4: It is not clear who set the requirements for the various posts including Attaches meaning who makes a determination.	Proposal will be that DIRCO in collaboration with partner departments identify strengths of the countries relevance in terms of political, economic and level of technology and skills.
5: Under Assets the Bill is silent on movable assets it only talks to immovable assets only	Clarification of the budget implication for single Foreign Service as proposed by the Bill need to address the status of moveable assets for partner departments

6: Section 5: The Bill suggests recall of members pending their enquiry but does not state it there would be any conditions of reinstatement.	Recommend that the conditions of reinstatements need to be spelt out
	7. Under 9 (5) it can't be Minister or DG it should be the Minister.