

**MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS**



**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**INTERNAL QUESTIONS PAPER NO 23**

**QUESTION NO: 2418**

**DATE: 09 JUNE 2023**

**REPLY RECOMMENDED BY:  
MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS**

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**Mr. W T I Mafanya (EFF) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:**

What programmes has she initiated to rejuvenate the SA National Defence Force due to a shortage of required skills related to the aged army personnel and constraints of the budget?

**REPLY:**

As part of the ongoing process to rejuvenate the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) in terms of skills and age, the Department of Defence (DOD) has implemented Mobility Exit Mechanism (MEM) to exit members between ages of 50 and 58 who cannot progress further in respect of their careers and utilisation in the SANDF.

Exiting members by means of MEM also addresses the concerns with regard to the macro organizational rank-age requirement of the SANDF.

In addition, DOD embarks on a biennial recruitment drive through Military Skills Development System (MSDS). Recruits are selected from all nine provinces based on laid down selection criteria which include Grade 12 certificate or equivalent for applicants that are between ages 18 and 22, and a National Diploma/Degree for applicants between ages 23 and 26 years.



**(T.R. MODISE)**

**MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS: MP**