

# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

## ORAL REPLY

### QUESTION NO. 31

**Ms. Z A Kota (ANC)** to ask the Minister of Housing:

1. Whether her department has given any assistance to the People's Housing Process (PHP); if not, why not; if so,
2. what are the relevant details?

## ORAL REPLY

Yes. My Department provides ongoing assistance for the People's Housing Process (PHP). Beneficiaries in the PHP are given organisational, technical and administrative support throughout the process which enables them to be capacitated and to develop their various skills. In terms of the New Comprehensive Plan, it is Government's intention to make increased use of the PHP housing delivery mechanism and therefore redefine the nature, focus and content of the PHP in order to build greater consensus and understanding between all stakeholders of the focus and intention of the PHP.

To this effect, enhanced implementation guidelines that meet all legislative requirements, known as the 'Core' PHP Guidelines, were finalised and presented to, and approved by, MINMEC on 26-27 September 2005. These PHP guidelines were circulated to provinces for implementation with effect from 26 September 2005.

A parallel process of redefining the People's Housing Process is also underway under the auspices of the People's Housing Partnership Trust (PHPT). The 'Breaking New Ground' strategy released in 2004 also addressed certain shortcomings and called for three areas of focus to redefine the People's Housing Process in South Africa. These three areas of focus were; a new definition for the People's Housing Process; a new funding mechanism for PHP; and a new framework for the development of institutional support for the PHP

In August 2005, a PHPT Interim Working Group (IWG) was established by the PHPT Board to address these issues. Its mandate was to engage with PHP stakeholders and to put forward a set of recommendations regarding the future of PHP in South Africa, the viability of the re-constitution of the PHP, the institutional support required for the sector, a possible strategy, business plan and way forward for the new, re-constituted institution and the criteria and resources

required to enable PHP to deliver 'at scale'. These latter processes are still unfolding.

In addition, some 65 Cuban Architects and Engineers are assisting Provincial Housing Departments to implement housing projects through the PHP method. Such assistance includes the transfer of skills to beneficiaries as well as to municipal and provincial officials.