



PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Minister Blade Nzimande
Department of Higher Education, Science and Innovation
DST Building
53 CSIR Campus
Meiring Naude Road
Brummeria
Pretoria
0184

21 April 2023

Dear Minister Nzimande,

I trust this letter reaches you well.

I am writing to you following a meeting of the National Assembly's Portfolio Committee on Higher Education, Science and Innovation that was held on 19/04/2023.

In this meeting, the committee was alerted of the current gap that exists between NRF applicants and the actual funding and space available for uptake. The Department of Science and Innovation indicated that the NRF has rejected 75% of qualifying applicants and that it would need R1 Billion to close this gap.

Minister, I, therefore, request that you share your ministry's plan to close this gap in an innovative and less costly manner.

I look forward to hearing from you on how and by when this will be done.

Yours in public service.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'KL Khakhau', written over a horizontal line.

Hon. KL Khakhau MP
DA Shadow Deputy Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation