

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE

NO. 387

28 APRIL 2017

**PUBLICATION OF EXPLANATORY SUMMARY OF THE DEFENCE AMENDMENT
BILL, 2017**

The Minister of Defence and Military Veterans intends introducing the Defence Amendment Bill, 2017, in the National Assembly. The explanatory summary of the Amendment Bill is hereby published in accordance with Rule 276 of the Rules of the National Assembly.

The Amendment Bill seeks to amend the Defence Act, 2002 (Act No. 42 of 2002), so as to—

- (a) include the Chief of Staff in the Military Command of the Defence Force;
- (b) clarify the process regarding the implementation by the Chief of the Defence Force of the delegation of powers and assignment of duties to members by the Secretary for Defence as head and accounting officer of the Department;
- (c) provide for the employment of the Defence Force outside the Republic;
- (d) simplify matters regarding identification cards issued to military police officials;
- (e) make a technical correction to the reference to the Armaments Corporation of South Africa, Limited in section 18;
- (f) provide for the security vetting of contractors and service providers of the Department;
- (g) regulate the minutes of meetings of the Council of Defence;
- (h) clarify that a person does not need the consent of an employer in order to enrol as or to remain a member of the Reserve Force;
- (i) regulate anew the termination of service of members of the Regular Force;
- (j) amend the requirements for legal representation for members;
- (k) regulate the display of military decorations, medals and insignia;
- (l) regulate the use of military uniforms, distinctive marks and crests;
- (m) amend certain powers of the Minister to make regulations;
- (n) provide for the prohibition of access to military property or areas; and
- (o) provide for matters incidental thereto.

Once the Amendment Bill has been tabled in Parliament, a copy can be obtained from:

1. the Government Printers – Cape Town and Pretoria;
2. the Director Legal Advice: Defence Legal Services, Department of Defence, Armscor Building C/O Nossob and Delmas Ave, Erasmuskloof, Pretoria, Tel: 012 355 6236/7.