PO BOX 15
Cape Town
8000
Republic of South Africa

Email: mshinn@da-mp.org.za

Dear Ms. Shinn

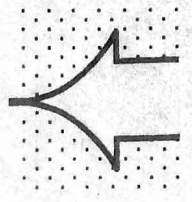Your letter dated 10 June 2015 refers.

We do not understand what the honourable member means by a "pact". The facts are:

On 4 December 2014 South Africa and China signed a 10 year Strategic Plan of cooperation at a Heads of State level.

In order to operationalise the Strategic Plan within the ICT sector the South African Minister of Telecommunications and Postal Services and the Chinese Minister of Industry and Information Technology signed a 5 year Plan of Action with the following areas of co-operation:

- Broadband strategies for implementation and rural access.

- Investment in telecommunications services.

- Cyber security.

- E-skills professional training.

- Electronics manufacturing and technology transfer.

- E-government.

- SMEs Incubation in ICT.

- Research and Development in ICT.

- Internet Governance.

Kind Regards,

DR SIYABONGA CWELE, MP
MINISTER OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND POSTAL SERVICES
Date: 25 June 2015

PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

10 June 2015

The Minister: Department of Telecommunications and Postal Services
The Honourable Siyabonga Cwele
Pretoria

Dear Minister Cwele,

I read with concern this morning news of the cyber security pact South Africa has signed with China.

Please can you send me a copy of the pact and any position paper your department – or any other government contributor – made to inform the provisions of the pact.

I am concerned about any concessions on internet freedoms and privacy that we may have made in order to sign the pact with China, and any influence it may have exerted on South Africa's positions on internet governance and surveillance.

My concerns are based on China's poor reputation on issues of human rights, freedom of expression and association, as well as its blocking of information flows from outside China. It also has a considerable reputation for cyber attack capabilities. It is suspected of being behind the recent hacking of United States' government computer facilities.

While I appreciate that most of the super powers are not completely innocent of similar activities I believe it is wise to be transparent and open with our citizens as to the terms of our cyber sphere relationships with these nations.

I look forward to your prompt clarity on this issue.

Yours sincerely,

Marian Shinn, MP
Shadow Minister of Telecommunications and Postal Services
Democratic Alliance
Telephone: 083 268 5752.   Email: mshinn@da-mp.org.za

We don't understand what the Honourable member means about the pact. The facts are:-

(1) On 4 December 2014 RSA & China signed a two years strategic Plan of Cooperation (2015-202?) at Head of State level.

on 8 June 2015.
(2) In order to operationalise the Strategic Plan within the ICT sector.

The RSA ministry of Telecom + Postal Service and the China ministry of Industry + INFORMATION TechnoDogy

Labi Ndhlovu-Shakung

Dear Labi

Please find attached a letter for the attention of the Minister.

Kind regards

Thando Mbokazi

Good Day

Please could you forward the attached letter to the minister for his prompt attention.

Best Regards

Marian Shinn MP

Democratic Alliance
FREEDOM. FAIRNESS. OPPORTUNITY.
Shadow Minister of Telecommunications and Postal Services
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