



## forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:  
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Ref: O2/1/5/2

### NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 696 {NW773E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 6 of 2023

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#### **Mr N Singh (IFP) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:**

What (a) measures is her department taking to ensure that the reported increase in imports of live primates from Bangladesh to the Republic is for non-commercial purposes and that Non-Objection Certificates are not being issued for such imports and (b) steps is her department taking to monitor and prevent the exported primates from being further traded into illegal wildlife trade markets?

#### **696. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:**

- (a) According to information available on the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) trade database, for the past five years, South Africa has not imported any live primates from Bangladesh for any trade purpose.
- (b) Once CITES listed species have been imported into South Africa, the CITES import permit is cancelled and the provincial conservation authority in the province of destination will issue permits for the further regulation of the imported specimens if

needed. CITES App II and III listed species may be imported for commercial purposes and may be resold in the country of import. If the animals that were imported are listed in Appendix I of CITES, a possession permit will be issued under the Threatened or Protected Species Regulations from 1 April 2023, to ensure that the imported animal(s) are not being re-sold in South Africa and thus not used for commercial purpose as the commercial import of an Appendix I listed species is prohibited under Article III of the Convention. The species must be used for the purpose as indicated on the CITES import permit.

An Appendix I listed animal species can only be imported for non-commercial import such as breeding, zoological and personal purposes, unless the animal has been bred in a captive breeding operation registered by the CITES Secretariat for commercial purposes as per Article VII paragraph 4 of the Convention.

Provincial conservation authorities will conduct compliance inspections to ensure that imported specimens are not used for purposes other than stated on the import permit and enforcement action will be taken if non-compliance is detected.



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**MS B D CREECY, MP**  
**MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

DATE: .....14/3/2023