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**GOVERNMENT NOTICES**  
**GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS**

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM**  
**DEPARTEMENT VAN OMGEWINGSAKE EN TOERISME**

No. 835

8 August 2008

**NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: BIODIVERSITY ACT, 2004**  
**(ACT 10 OF 2004):**

**National Moratorium on the Trade of Individual Rhinoceros Horns within**  
**South Africa**

I, Marthinus Christoffel Johannes Van Schalkwyk, Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, hereby in terms of section 100 of the Act, publish for public comment, the following:

1. Notice in terms of section 57(2) of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004): **National Moratorium on the Trade of Individual Rhinoceros Horns within South Africa.**
  
2. In addition, I hereby publish, a procedure, as set out in **Annexure I**, which will regulate the marking and management of hunting of white rhinoceros for trophy hunting purposes.

Any person who wishes to submit written representations and/or objections on the proposed moratorium or Annexure is invited to do so within 30 days of the publication of this notice. All representations and comments must be submitted

in writing to the Director-General of the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism:

By post to: The Director-General: Environmental Affairs and Tourism  
Attention: Mrs. Sonja Meintjes  
Private Bag X447  
Pretoria, 0001

By fax to: (012) 320 7026, and by e-mail to [smeintjes@deat.gov.za](mailto:smeintjes@deat.gov.za)

Any inquiries in connection with the draft notice and Annexure I can be directed to Mrs. Sonja Meintjes at Tel. (012) 310-3545.



**MARTHINUS VAN SCHALKWYK,**  
**MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM**  
**DATE: 09 JUL 2008**

**ANNEXURE I****PROPOSED PROCEDURE FOR THE:****1. Marking of rhinoceros and its products:**

- 1.1 It is recommended that all live rhinoceros on private and state land must, where practically possible, be micro chipped with one microchip in the body of the rhinoceros and one microchip in each of the horns. All individual rhinoceros horns in private or state possession must be micro chipped in accordance with Regulation 70 of the regulations pertaining to threatened or protected species (TOPS).
- 1.2 All horns must be measured and photographed. The drill shavings from the horns must be collected and stored by the relevant Conservation Authority, in a sealed container. The microchip number must be placed in the container, as well as attached to the outside of the container. The information of each container must be entered into a register with all the details and kept in a safe for possible future use in DNA finger printing.
- 1.3 Rhinoceros horns originating from natural mortalities, and which is not micro chipped, must be micro chipped by the permit issuing authority and all relevant information as prescribed above, must be collected and stored for possible future use. Such mortalities must be reported to the authority within 14 days. Micro chipping of any rhinoceros or rhinoceros products must be done by or under the supervision of the permit issuing authority.
- 1.4 The above information must be kept in a provincial database and any changes resulting from translocation, export out of a province, natural mortalities, hunting etc. must be reflected in such database. The national Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT) must keep a national database.

**2. Management of the hunting of white rhinoceros:**

- 2.1 Until such time that a national policy on the management of live rhinoceros and rhinoceros horns has being promulgated, trade in individual rhinoceros horn is prohibited in terms of a national moratorium, which has been approved by MinMec and published in

*Government Gazette no.* Only horns that are exported as part of a hunting trophy may be exported with the necessary TOPS and Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) permits. Issuing authorities must utilize the opportunities created by the translocation or darting of rhinoceros for management purposes to microchip all rhinoceros.

- 2.2 All rhinoceros hunts must be strictly controlled by means of an individual TOPS hunting permit issued by the issuing authority and must not be included on TOPS standing permits or game farm hunting permits. This will ensure that all rhinoceros horn can be traced to the property where the hunt took place.
- 2.3 All applications for hunting of rhinoceros received by the issuing authorities must be referred to the Directorate: Regulation and Monitoring Services at DEAT for recommendation. This will enable DEAT to compile a database for hunters and ensure that a hunter does not hunt more than one animal in different provinces.
- 2.4 Rhinoceros hunts may only take place if it is being supervised by a conservation official from the province concerned, subject to a permit being issued in the name of the hunter.
- 2.5 Only one rhinoceros per hunter per year may be hunted for trophy purposes.
- 2.6 No hunter will be allowed to export the horns of a rhinoceros hunted as a trophy in personal baggage and horns may not be separated from the trophy immediately after the hunt.
- 2.7 The horns must be micro chipped on the property where the hunt took place immediately after the hunt, if it is not already micro chipped. Only an official from the issuing authority may micro chip the horns of the hunting trophy.
- 2.8 The professional hunting register must be completed immediately after termination of the hunt.
- 2.9 The TOPS hunting permit must be signed by the hunter before commencement of the hunt. The owner of the game farm must sign off the permit after termination of the hunt, to confirm the success of the hunt.
- 2.10 The hunting permit and a copy of the professional hunting register must accompany the rhinoceros products (including the horns), which forms part of the hunting trophy, when being transported between destinations.