



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Ref:02/1/5/2

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 2287 {NW2525E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 26 of 2017

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 14 August 2017

Mr N Paulsen (EFF) to ask the Minister of Environmental Affairs:

Whether any (a) investigations and/or (b) steps have been taken by her department to ascertain the involvement of a certain person (name and details furnished) who is allegedly in collusion with individuals accused of rhino poaching and the illegal trade in rhino horns; if not, what steps does her department intend to take; if so, what are the relevant details?

2287. THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS REPLIES:

- (a) It is the mandate of the South African Police Service (SAPS) to investigate organised crimes such as rhino poaching; and
- (b) In line with point (a), officials from the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) have communicated their concerns regarding the above matters to the Directorate for Priority Crime Investigations ("the HAWKS"), and they also assist in coordinating efforts to investigate these matters through various structures that have been set up to curb these crimes.

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