



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Ref: 02/1/5/2

MINISTER (ACTING)

QUESTION NO. 271 FOR ORAL REPLY: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

A draft reply to **Mr C F B Smit (Limpopo: DA)** to the above-mentioned question is enclosed for your consideration.

**MS NOSIPHO NGCABA
DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

DATE:

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

**MR D A HANEKOM, MP
MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS (ACTING)**

DATE:

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

(For oral reply)

QUESTION NO. 271 {CO604E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 40 of 2018

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 22 October 2018

Mr C F B Smit (Limpopo: DA) to ask the Minister of Environmental Affairs:

Whether the Government is still committed to the (a) Paris Agreement and (b) targets of the Agreement of curbing greenhouse gas emissions; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? CO604E

271. THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS REPLIES:

- (a) Yes, as a signatory to the Paris Agreement, South Africa is still committed to meeting its targets as stipulated in the country's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).
- (b) Yes, the Government is still committed to the targets of the Agreement of curbing greenhouse gas emissions:
- In relation to mitigation, South Africa's emissions by 2025 and 2030 are proposed to be in a range of between 398 and 614 Mega tonnes of carbon dioxide (Mt CO₂eq), as defined in the National Climate Change Response Policy (NCCRP), the benchmark against which the efficacy of mitigation actions will be measured.
 - As far as adaptation goes, South Africa has committed to the following targets:
 - developing a National Adaptation Plan and beginning to operationalise it as part of implementing the NCCRP for the period from 2020 to 2025 and for the period 2025 to 2030.
 - building the necessary institutional capacity for climate change response planning and implementation for the period 2020 to 2030;
 - developing an early warning, vulnerability and adaptation monitoring system for key climate vulnerable sectors and geographic areas for the period 2020 to 2030, and reporting in terms of the National Adaptation Plan with rolling five-year implementation periods; and
 - developing a vulnerability assessment and adaptation needs framework by 2020 to support a continuous presentation of adaptation needs, and communicating the past investments in adaptation for education and awareness as well as for international recognition.

The Climate Change Adaptation Strategy which is currently being finalized will :

1. provide for fulfilment of the rest of the Nationally Determined Contribution targets by making provision for the implementation of institutional capacity at all spheres of government and sectors of government, including organisations outside government;
2. guide the implementation and integration of climate change adaptation into various sector policies, strategies and programmes and this will facilitate the mainstreaming of climate change adaptation;
3. provide for the development of the vulnerability framework. This work will build on the work already done with various sectors that have done vulnerability assessment for that sector with the support of the Department of Environmental Affairs and the work done in partnership with the Department of Water and Sanitation on the Vulnerability Assessment Framework for the nine Water Management Areas;
4. provide an anchor for developing an early warning system. In addition, the department is also developing the National Framework for Climate Services which will enable South Africa to develop the capability for an early warning system to be implemented and support monitoring and evaluation. Part of the work on early warning is being demonstrated on some projects funded through the Adaptation Fund, for example, the Umngeni resilience project; and
5. fulfil other obligations, including developing capacity building and awareness and tracking of climate investment as part of the climate change monitoring and evaluation work.

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