



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Ref:02/1/5/2

MINISTER

QUESTION NO. 177 FOR ORAL REPLY: NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

A draft reply to Mr T Z Hadebe (DA) to the above-mentioned question is enclosed for your consideration.

MS NOSIPHO NGCABA
DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE:

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

MRS B E E MOLEWA, MP
MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DATE:

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For oral reply)

QUESTION NO. 177 {NO1994E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 24 of 2016

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 30 August 2016

Mr T Z Hadebe (DA) to ask the Minister of Environmental Affairs:

With reference to her reply to question 1216 on 11 May 2016, why did her department shift its responsibilities of monitoring the conservation and usage of marine resources on the KwaZulu-Natal coastline to the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries?

177. THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS REPLIES:

The Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) has not shifted any responsibility to Department of Agriculture Forest and Fisheries. The Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) is mandated in terms of its legislation to monitor the usage of consumptive fisheries resources along the entire coastline of KwaZulu-Natal. The Department of Agriculture Forest and Fisheries had a contract with Ezemvelo KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife (EKZNW) for resource management, compliance on fisheries and enforcement of the entire KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) coastline inclusive of MPAs.

The Department of Agriculture Forest and Fisheries cancelled contract with Ezemvelo KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife end of July 2016, then DAFF deployed their own Fishery Control Officers at KZN to do compliance enforcement monitoring on the entire KZN coastline including MPAs.

DEA is responsible for monitoring, compliance and enforcement in respect of all environmental issues unrelated to fisheries marine resources, such as whale watching, shark cage diving, threatened and protected marine species compliance, coastal compliance under the National Environmental Management: Integrated Coastal Management Act, 2008 (Act No. 24 of 2008) and Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). In MPAs, DEA has in most instances contracted a conservation management agency to perform these functions.

In KZN, DEA contracted EKZMW to perform DEA functions in relation to compliance enforcement monitoring in KZN MPAs. This capacity is in addition to its own environmental management inspectorate, which does compliance and enforcement for all environmental functions in cooperation with other national, provincial and local organs of state. Inside those MPAs, which are zoned for fishing, DAFF and DEA cooperate to enforce the provisions of their respective legislation. Where an MPA allows fishing in a particular zone, then DAFF issues the fishing permits in accordance with its legislation. The overall zonation and regulation of the MPA itself falls under DEA legislation and as such each Department has a mandate to enforce its particular legislation inside these MPAs.

DAFF and DEA cooperate around the coastline in relation to compliance and enforcement inside MPAs. As such they will cooperate with DAFF inside KZN MPAs who have now taken over the fisheries enforcement function in KZN from KZN Wildlife as of 01 August 2016.

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