



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Ref: 02/1/5/2

MINISTER

QUESTION NO. 240 FOR WRITTEN REPLY: NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

A draft reply to Mrs C N Z Zikalala (IFP) 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 WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DATE:

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 240

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 3 of 2014 {NW291E}

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 28 February 2014

Mrs C N Z Zikalala (IFP) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

Whether, with reference to her reply to question 123 on 1 March 2010 (details furnished), she will now consider banning the export of lion bones, skeletons and carcasses, owing to the negative impact that this trade is having on the world's few remaining wild tigers, as these lion bones are being passed off as tiger bone cake and tiger wine, thereby fuelling and sustaining the demand for products containing wild tiger bones; if not, why not, given the evidence (details furnished); if so, what steps will she take?

240. THE MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS REPLIES:

No. As indicated in my reply on question 123 on 1 March 2010, the banning of the export of lion bones will only be considered if the export has a negative impact on the survival of lions in the wild. The Department of Environmental Affairs has not been provided with evidence that lion bone is traded as tiger bone. The lion bones, skeletons and carcasses, which are exported from South Africa, are by-products of the lion hunting industry. Lion hunting is regulated in terms of provincial and national legislation, and is sustainable at this point; and the majority of lions hunted in South Africa originate from captive breeding operations. Less than 5% of lion hunts conducted in South Africa targets wild lions. Utilisation of lion within South Africa's national parks is not allowed, thus effectively 67% of the free roaming lions within South Africa is strictly protected.

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