



## environmental affairs

Department:  
Environmental Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Ref: 02/1/5/2

MINISTER

QUESTION NO. 245 FORWRITTEN REPLY: NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

A draft reply to Ms B D Ferguson (Cope) 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:

NATIONALASSEMBLY

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 245

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 3 of 2014      NW296E

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 28 February 2014

Ms B D Ferguson (Cope) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) Whether she is aware that illegal rhino poaching escalated in 2008 and reached the highest rate in 2011; if not, why not; if so,
  
- (2) whether she or her department intends to commission an investigation into the causes of the escalation of illegal rhino poaching; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details;
  
- (3) whether she will make a statement on the matter?

**245. THE MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS REPLIES:**

- (1) Yes, I am aware of the Rhino poaching situation and the department is monitoring and communicating all statistics to the public on an on-going basis. Rhino poaching continues to be a problem for the country as numbers of Rhino killing are on the increase.
  
- (2) No. There are on-going investigations in relation to all cases of rhino poaching. These are treated on a case by case basis, per syndicate or per individual. These investigations are led by the Directorate for Priority Crime Investigation within the South African Police Service.
  
- (3) Yes. Statements relating to Rhino poaching, interventions and progress made are released on a regular basis.

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