



## environmental affairs

Department:  
Environmental Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Ref: 02/1/5/2

MINISTER

QUESTION FOR ORAL REPLY: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

A draft reply to Mrs A N D Qikani (ANC-EC) to the above-mentioned question is enclosed for your consideration.

Mr Fundisile Mketeni  
DIRECTOR-GENERAL (ACTING)

DATE:

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

MRS B E E MOLEWA, MP  
MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DATE:

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES**

**(For oral reply)**

**QUESTION NO. 85**

**INTERNAL QUESTION NO. 10 of 2013 CO224E**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION: 30 April 2013**

**Mrs A N D Qikani (ANC-EC) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:**

Whether her department will have the (a) capacity and (b) resources to manage and protect the conservation of the biodiversity on and around the Prince Edward Islands which was recently declared by her as the first South African offshore Marine Protected Area; if not, (i) why not and (ii) how will it be managed and protected; if so, what are the relevant details?

**Mrs A N D Qikani (ANC-EC)**

**SECRETARY TO PARLIAMENT**

**HANSARD**

**PAPERS OFFICE**

**PRESS**

**THE MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS ANSWERS:**

(a) and (b) (i) and (ii) Yes, the Department of Environmental Affairs will have the capacity and resources to manage and protect the biodiversity on and around the Prince Edward Islands which was recently declared as the first South African offshore Marine Protected Area (MPA). The Prince Edward Islands MPA will not be managed like an ordinary coastal MPA, simply because of its location and proximity to the South African mainland (1 800 km south east of Port Elizabeth). South Africa is a member of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources, and through this association we are cooperating with other member states with an interest in the Southern Ocean to increase our capacity to jointly and most effectively manage and protect biodiversity on and around the Prince Edward Islands. We are also seeking to further enhance co-operation with the Australian and French Governments who regularly patrol their sovereign territories of Heard Island and the Crozet Islands respectively, located to the east of the Prince Edward Islands.

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