



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Ref: 02/1/5/2

MINISTER

QUESTION FOR ORAL REPLY: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

A draft reply to **Mrs DD Gamede (ANC-KZN)** 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:

NATIONALCOUNCIL OF PROVINCES

(For oral reply)

QUESTION NO. 90

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 10 of 2013 CO229E

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Mrs D.D. Gamede (ANC-KZN) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

Whether, with regard to the memorandum of understanding entered into last year between South Africa and Vietnam to fight Rhino poaching and to promote Law enforcement between the two countries to fight Rhino Poaching and to prohibit export, import and trade in specimens of Rhino, she has entered into similar Treaties with other countries, If not (i) why not (ii) what are her plans in that regard and (iii) what other measures are in place or are going to be implemented to prevent and root out this scourge; If so (a) what are relevant details and (b) what other measures are in place or are going to be implemented to prevent and root out this scourge.

Mrs D.D. Gamede (ANC- KZN)

SECRETARY TO PARLIAMENT

HANSARD

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THE MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS ANSWERS:

- i) Yes, the Department has entered into a treaty with China.
- ii) And the Department is in the process of entering into treaties with Asian and African countries.
- iii) (a) and (b) The Department continues to review and implement the National Strategy on the Safety and Security of the Rhinoceros Population whose objectives are implemented together with the law enforcement agencies in an integrated approach.

Since CITES COP17, the Department has commenced with the implementation of the decision endorsed by the convention by intensifying its interaction and participation in international law enforcement forums in which rhino poaching will be treated as a form of transnational crime to be observed by all participating countries. The consequences and application of international prescripts relating to transnational crime will be standardised with regard to rhino related-crimes for all countries and will bear equal and standardised penalties at conviction.

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