



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 1712 {NW1921E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 16 of 2021

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Mrs C Phillips (DA) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

- (1) What are the relevant details of the criteria used to identify suitable (a) communities as beneficiaries of game donations and (b) emerging farmers as beneficiaries of game loans;
- (2) whether the specified criteria include (a) assessment of the (i) viability, (ii) previous experience in game farming and (b) an evaluation of the assets of the beneficiary or benefitting entity;
- (3) whether there is any financial threshold to qualify for a donation and/or loan; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (4) up to what level of assets and/or turnover does a beneficiary qualify as an emerging farmer;
- (5) what are the relevant details of the process for the evaluation of suitable beneficiaries, including but not limited to the identification of politically connected persons or politicians?

1712. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:

(1) (a)(b) The Environmental function is a concurrent function between the National and Provincial Administrations in line with the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa. The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE) developed the National Policy framework on game donation and custodianship, whereas Management Authorities develops their respective policies and criteria for beneficiaries.

Whereas it is the competencies of the various Management Authorities to develop criteria for the identification of suitable communities and emerging farmers to qualify for game donation and game loans, the DFFE developed the National Policy Framework on Wildlife donation and custodianship with the following general broad swiping criteria:

- Recipients of a wildlife donation or custodianship must be "black" as defined in the Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment Act, 2003 (Act No. 53 of 2003); (with more than 51% ownership in the wildlife business venture or property);
- Recipients must provide proof of being South African citizens - residing in the respective Province (certified copy of ID and proof of residence which is not older than 3 (three) months need to be submitted along with application);
- When dealing with recipients that farm with livestock on the property, provision must be made for the management of domestic stock that may pose a disease risk to wildlife or even, outcompete such wildlife;
- Recipients must show a willingness to participate in the wildlife economy programme and must unconditionally identify with the programme objectives;
- Recipients must provide proof of having access, through a long-term tenure agreement or ownership, to land suitable for wildlife ranching and/or farming with sufficient grazing as per carrying capacity of the land and the expansion of the herd;
- The aforementioned land must be improved with physical security infrastructure, adequate fencing and have natural resource management infrastructure (e.g. veld fire belts, etc.) and provide proof of a Certificate of Adequate Enclosure;
- Any applicant already owning wild animals must provide a health certificate issued by the local state veterinarian with particular emphasis on Bovine tuberculosis and Brucellosis, foot and mouth disease status of the existing herd;

- Any proof of animal husbandry and veld management skills and entrepreneurial abilities will be an added advantage;
- Applicants must be willing to participate in capacity building/training programmes and wildlife economy forums;
- Registered legal entities must show compliance with relevant laws.

(2)(a)(i)(ii)(b), It is within the competencies of the various Management Authorities to conduct the relevant assessments of the viability of the beneficiaries previous experience in game farming including the evaluation of the assets of the beneficiary or benefitting entity.

(3) Since various Management Authorities develop their respective criteria and policies, such threshold (if any) would be determined by them. The National Policy Framework on Game donation and custodianship only sets the broad general criteria as indicated in 1) above.

(4) See (3) above

(5) See (3) above.

Regards



**MS B D CREECY, MP
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

DATE: 18/6/2021