



forestry, fisheries & the environment

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

Ref: O2/1/5/2

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 1537 {NW1861E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 15 of 2022

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 29 April 2022

Mr M N Paulsen (EFF) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

What system is in place, by which reports of the SA Weather Service which monitors possible severe weather conditions, are relayed to her department and taken to Cabinet to inform it to be on high alert and act accordingly?

1537. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:

The South African Weather Service (SAWS) issues media releases ahead of predicted severe weather events with possible disruptions and high impacts. They are disseminated to various media channels, including print media, televisions and radio stations, and, more recently, via social media applications. Media releases are also communicated to all disaster management structures, from national, provincial and district levels. The same media releases are also communicated to the Office of the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment. SAWS participates in, and presents at various forums to disseminate these warnings, including the Intergovernmental Committee on Disaster Management (ICDM), whose purpose it is to plan and coordinate government's response to any potential disaster before, during and/or after the event.

SAWS, furthermore, distributes severe weather warnings to all disaster management structures by SMS, email and Extensible Markup Language (XML) coding using Common Alerting Protocol (CAP).

The warnings can also be accessed by the public through the website at www.weathersa.co.za, through social media on Twitter @SAWeatherService and on the Facebook page of SAWS, namely South African Weather Service/WeatherService.

Regards



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

DATE: 13/5/2022