



**environment, forestry  
& fisheries**

Department:  
Environment, Forestry and Fisheries  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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**Ref: O2/1/5/2**

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES**

**(For written reply)**

**QUESTION NO. 154 {NW169E}**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 11 of 2020**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION: 22 May 2020**

**Ms M O Mokause (Northern Cape: EFF) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:**

- (1) Why the Chief Executive Officer of the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) resigned soon after her appointment; and
- (2) whether he has been informed of the suspicions that SANBI is not welcoming to black women, particularly African women in leadership positions; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

**154. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:**

1. Dr Moshibudi Rampedi tendered her resignation as the SANBI CEO on 11 August 2019. Dr Rampedi indicated, in her resignation letter, that she has been re-deployed to the Diplomatic Service with effect from 18 August 2019. Dr Rampedi served as CEO from 1 September 2017 to 11 August 2019
2. The Minister is not aware of any such suspicions. The Institute has an Employment Equity (EE) Plan with clear targets, which is approved by the Board (SANBI Accounting Authority). The EE

Plan guides appointment of each staff member, including the appointment of the Chief Executive Officer.

I have ascertained, from the Board, that there are no grievances, formal or informal, on the part of any Black women alleging unfair discrimination. The Honourable Member is invited to submit any specific concerns to which she may be privy, together with supporting evidence, to the Minister's office, where it will receive prompt attention.

**Regards**

  
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**MS B D CREECY, MP**  
**MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT**  
DATE: 09/6/2020