



**forestry, fisheries
& the environment**

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

Ref: O2/1/5/2

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

(For oral reply)

QUESTION NO.303 { CW279E }

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 17 of 2023

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 05 May 2023

303. Ms C Labuschagne (Western Cape: DA) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

- (1) Whether, with reference to her statement in an Oral Question session in October 2019 (details furnished), the development of a wildlife crime strategy has been approved by Cabinet; if not, why not; if so,
- (2) whether the task team has been formed; if not, why not?

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

- (1) The National Integrated Strategy to Combat Wildlife Trafficking (NISCWT) is currently in the Cabinet system.
- (2) In relation to the abalone fishery, in order to refocus our efforts around the management of the abalone resource and how best to prevent and combat the illicit trade, an inclusive and holistic strategic response and action plan for the prevention and combatting of trade in illegally harvested abalone has been developed.

Stakeholders and experts from national, provincial and local government, academia, the private sector, the fishing sector and civil society contributed to this process. The draft strategy and action plan, are focused on critical areas, including research and data management, the Regulatory Framework, policy development and management, compliance and enforcement, aquaculture and alternative livelihoods, socio-economic issues and community involvement and international cooperation, market research and engagement. The draft strategy and action plan have recently been circulated for comment. The workshop took place in Stellenbosch from 27 February until 3 March 2023.



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

DATE: 18/05/2023