



forestry, fisheries & the environment

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

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NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

(For oral reply)

QUESTION NO.14 {CO277E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 11 of 2023

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

(a) How many of the 152 land claims on forestry land that were still (i) outstanding or (ii) not being settled (iii) not been resolved since the presentation to the Portfolio Committee on Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment in the National Assembly in March 2022: and (b) how many of the existing outstanding claims her department is in discussions to (i) continue to lease for forestry purposes through section 27 of the National Forests Act, 1998 (Act No. 84 of 1998), (ii) be managed by communities who wish to continue with forestry through section 29 of the said Act – (iii) be transferred to communities in line with the Commercial Forestry Masterplan where the private sector will participate as investors?

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

(a) According to the recent report from the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD), of the 152 claims outstanding, eleven (11) have been settled since the approval of the Commercial Forestry Master Plan. Of the eleven (11), four (4) were settled after the presentation was made to the Portfolio Committee in March 2022.

(b) All the plantations of the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) will either be managed through a lease or community forest agreement depending on the nature of the plantation, interest by industry and the communities. To ensure sustainability, plantations where community forestry agreements will be signed, the private sector will be brought in to participate as investors. The DFFE has commenced with consultations with the communities in the Eastern Cape where most of the plantations are located.

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

DATE: