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6/2/2/6

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 2121 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above-mentioned question asked by Mrs S P Kopane (DA); is attached for your consideration.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acti

DATE:

DRAET REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

MSB P SONJICA, MP

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DATE:

27.08.2010

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 2121

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 13 AUGUST 2010 (INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 20)

2121. Mrs S P Kopane (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

What are the relevant details of systems and programmes currently in place in the Working for Water programme to (a) assist and (b) incentivise private landowners to clear alien vegetation?

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REPLY:

- (a) My Department through Working for Water (WfW) Programme instituted the following assistance to private landowners for the clearing of invasive alien plants:
 - Provision of herbicide and labour cost for alien plants clearing and monitoring arrangement to ensure that the herbicide is correctly applied.
 - Technical and management advices to ensure efficacy of the clearing.
- (b) The assistance indicated in paragraph (a) above can also be viewed as incentives. Private land owners can have the ability to access natural resources such as water freed up through clearing operations. Of importance, private landowners are also able to qualify for tax and other fiscal incentives where they have entered into conservation agreements with the state. e.g. management expenses on their properties such as clearing of invasive alien plants can be viewed as a tax deductible expense.

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