

MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

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ENQUIRIES

: Mr H. Muller

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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 1433 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

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

DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE:

DRAFI REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

MSB P SONJICA, MP

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DATE:

12/05/2010

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 1433

<u>DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 14 MAY 2010</u> (INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 13)

1433. Mrs A T Lovemore (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

Whether her department has any plans in place to ensure equitable distribution of irrigation water to resource poor farmers; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

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REPLY:

Yes, my Department is busy with the implementation of the Water Allocation Reform (WAR) programme that prioritises historically disadvantaged individuals (HDIs) to ensure equitable distribution of water. As part of the WAR programme, my Department provides financial assistance to resource poor irrigation farmers in the form of grants and subsidies for water and irrigation related infrastructure. Financial support provided includes grants for acquisition of water entitlements for irrigation, subsidies on operation and maintenance of waterworks, grants to cover the capital cost on bulk water distribution infrastructure for irrigation, grants for feasibility studies, and grants on training of management committees on water use efficiency during irrigation.