



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Reference: 2/1/5/1

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 2294 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above-mentioned question asked by Mrs H N Ndude (Cope); is attached for your consideration.


DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE:

1/9/10


DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

MS B P SONJICA, MP
MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DATE:

02. 09. 2010

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 2294

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 20 AUGUST 2010
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 23)

2294. Mrs H N Ndude (Cope) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

Whether she has taken steps to implement programmes to curb the high prevalence of diseases associated with poor quality of water in public streams; if not, why not; if so, to what extent did her department reduce the prevalence of such diseases during the period 15 July 2009 to 15 July 2010?

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REPLY:

Yes, my Department from time to time does run campaigns through the nine regional offices where the public is made aware of cholera and other waterborne diseases.

In addition to this, joint initiatives with the Department of Health have ensured that environmental health practitioners educate various communities on the need to filter and disinfect polluted water (mainly with sodium hypo-chloride, more commonly known as bleach).

Communities are also made aware of the potential health impacts of faecally polluted water through theatre group performances. Posters, booklets and pamphlets were handed out to schools in the communities. Clean ups at nearby streams were done with the cooperation of the municipalities after the performances.

In spite of these initiatives, Government remains concerned about people consuming water from public streams and will continue with its intervention strategies to reduce the prevalence of waterborne diseases.

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