



## water affairs

Department:  
Water Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MINISTRY OF WATER AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

2011 -03- 28

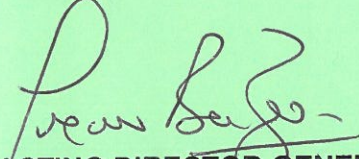
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Reference: 6/2/2/6

**MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

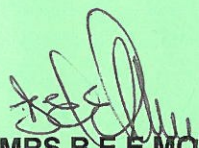
**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 584 FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

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

  
**ACTING DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

DATE: 28/03/2011

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

  
**MRS B E E MOLEWA, MP**  
**MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

DATE: 29-3-2011

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

**FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NO 584**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 07 MARCH 2011**  
**(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 04)**

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

Whether, with reference to the 2009-10 annual report, her department has facilitated interdepartmental meetings with the Departments of Human Settlements, Energy and Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs to achieve an integrated approach to water and sanitation services; if not, why not; if so, (a) how many such meetings took place, (b) what was on the agenda and (c) what common ground has been achieved? NW598E

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**REPLY:**

- (a) Yes, the Department has facilitated 16 interdepartmental meetings between 2009 and 2010 with relevant sector departments, including the Departments of Human Settlements, Energy and Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Provincial and Local Governments, South African Local Government Association, Public Entities, Civil Society and the private sector in pursuit of an integrated approach to water and sanitation services.
- (b) The themes or objectives reflected in Table 1 below have guided the agendas for the meetings; however, topics that are relevant to this National Assembly Question are lifted and reflected hereunder for easy reference.

**Table 1: Meetings convened by the Department towards integrated planning**

<b>Objective/theme</b>	<b>Topic specific to question 584</b>
Mainstreaming Water as Central to Planning to promote Economic Growth and Development in South Africa	Strategic Oversight and Water Sector Response Towards Key Government Priorities Discussion towards planning for implementation: National and Provincial Water Sector Structures
Positioning Water at the Centre of Planning and Development in South Africa	Identifying common priorities and influencing integrated planning and alignment across key water use sectors
State of the Water Sector: Review of Key Activities and How these affect the achievement of set Sector Goals	Aligning strategic water sector planning with the national strategic planning Intersectoral alignment: high-level strategic issues to be incorporated in the strategic content of the revised National Water Resource Strategy
Exploring ways of improving inter and intra sector-sector collaboration	Presentations by sector partners
To reflect and share experiences and lessons on effective responses to service delivery challenges at municipal level	Sharing perspectives and lessons from Local Government service delivery challenges
Addressing the Challenges of Water Losses-Mitigation and Control Measures	Highlights of service delivery outcomes linked to current Performance Management System Sharing lessons from water leaks interventions: Achievements and Challenges
Working Together for Water Security and Poverty Alleviation	To promote integrated planning and coordination between all sector stakeholders in addressing provincial development and growth
Preparation of the Branch: Regions inputs into the Departmental Strategic Plan	Presentation by sector departments on their key focus areas and indicators in line with the relevant outcomes
Round table discussion on outcomes based service delivery approach	Inputs from the Department on outcomes and presentations by sector departments

- (c) In all these interdepartmental meetings, the common ground was the realisation of a need to put water at the centre of developmental initiatives, which calls for integrated planning to improve service delivery. Further, such meetings proved that coordination is central and water sector forums are an effective mechanism to achieve sector inputs and promotion of integrated planning.

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