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Reference: 2/1/5/1

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 1027 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above question asked by Mr N J J van R Koornhof (Cope) is attached for your consideration.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 08/05/2012

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

MRS B E E MOLEWA, MP

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DATE: 2012/05/10

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 1027

<u>DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 04 MAY 2012</u> (INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 11)

1027. Mr N J J van R Koornhof (Cope) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

What progress has been made in setting up catchment management agencies to ensure equitable, efficient and sustainable water resource management?

NW1202E

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REPLY:

The National Water Resource Strategy (NWRS) gives provision for the establishment of the 19 Catchment Management Agencies (CMA) per Water Management Area (WMA). To date, eight CMAs have already been established, two of which are currently functional: the Inkomati CMA in Mpumalanga and the Breede-Overberg CMA in the Western Cape. A further six CMAs were gazzetted but their Boards have not been appointed and both CMAs have not been developed into functional entities yet.

Since the establishment of these CMAs, the process of establishing CMAs was put on hold while the issue of the appropriate number of institutions was investigated through project "Institutional Reform and Realignment" (IRR).

The IRR project proposed the establishment of nine CMAs in the nine WMAs. These revised areas are defined in the draft National Water Resources Strategy (NWRS) and will be part of the NWRS when it is promulgated. I announced the establishment of the nine CMAs on the 19 March 2012.

The Department is in the process of appointing a national project team to drive and manage the process of implementation/ establishment in a programmatic manner, working with relevant regional office staff within tightly managed timeframes (three to five years).

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