



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

EdTM

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MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES: QUESTION 52 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above mentioned question asked Ms L C Dlamini (Mpumalanga: ANC) is attached for your consideration.

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

**MRS NP MOKONYANE
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION**

DATE: 07/05/15

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 52

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 28 APRIL 2015
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 12)

★ 52. Ms L C Dlamini (Mpumalanga: ANC) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

(a) How successful was the Gender, Water and Development Conference that took place in East London in November 2014 and (b) what are the outcomes of the conference?

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REPLY:

(a) The Conference was successful and attended by 456 participants from 36 countries globally. They ranged from international organisations, local women and men, civil society organisations, men's networks, politicians, policy makers, government officials, implementers of policy from local and national levels, small enterprises, the business sector and academia.

Some countries were represented at Ministerial and Diplomatic levels, to mention just a few Zimbabwe, Namibia, Sudan, Tajikistan and Algeria. The five regions of African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW) were represented by vice presidents.

Other dignitaries included members of parliament in this house, mayors and representatives of various international organisations. The conference was graced by the participation of the President of Women in Water Partnership from Netherlands and her executive council members from USA, Bulgaria, Spain and Sweden but to mention a few.

(b) The outcomes of the conference were as follows:

- Ministerial Declaration was signed in which ministers present committed to the implementation of the AMCOW Policy and Strategy, to annual reporting on implementation of the Policy and Strategy, and to mobilising their colleagues on the continent to do the same, in order to ensure the continuation of the momentum of the conference.
- Host organisations and delegates also committed to and planned a diversity of follow-up actions at local, national, continental and global levels.
- A further highlight of the conference was the 'indaba' session, in which participants from across the world and from all walks of life engaged in a bottom-up process of identifying and unpacking critical issues relating to the achievement of gender mainstreaming in the water sector.
- The outcomes of the conference were presented as part of the women's declaration at the World Water Forum recently held in South Korea. This was further accepted by the Ministerial High-level segment as part of the submission to the upcoming United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in September 2015, New York for endorsement by the Heads of State.
- Lastly, there was a strong lobbying by AMCOW member states for South Africa to champion the issues of women and water in the region and to ensure that they are represented in all the multilateral fora.

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