



Wes-Kaapse Provinsiale Parlement
Western Cape Provincial Parliament
IPalamente yePhondo leNtshona Koloni

Ref: 11/4/1/2/11

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND
DEVELOPMENT PLANNING**

Tuesday, 1 June 2021 (at 14:00), Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

PRESENT

Members

Democratic Alliance

Baartman, DM (DA)
Maseko, LM
Van der Westhuizen, AP (Chairperson)

African National Congress

Marran, P

Freedom Front Plus

Marais, PJ

Apologies

Herron, BN (GOOD)

Mr A Bredell, Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
Ms B Creecy, National Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Mr S Ismail, Acting Chief Executive Officer - CapeNature

The following persons were in attendance:

Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning

Ms K Shippey, Chief Director - Environmental Sustainability
Mr G Arendse, Chief Director - Environmental Quality
Ms M Laros, Director - Biodiversity and Coastal Management
Ms W Kloppers, Director - Pollution and Chemicals Management
Mr A Gaffoor, Director - Strategic and Operational Support
Mr A Ackhurst, Director - Biodiversity and Coastal Management

Mr P McLean, Task manager - Riparian Rehabilitation and Bioremediation

CapeNature

Dr E Baard, Executive Director - Conservation Operations

Department of Agriculture

Mr J Aries, Chief Director - Farmer Support and Development

Ms A Petersen, Director - Sustainable Resource Management

WCPP Officials

Mr J Vermeulen, Senior Procedural Officer

Ms S Niekerk, Procedural Officer

Ms N Mshumpela, Committee Assistant

Mr S Hassam, Information Technology Assistant

1. Opening and welcome

The Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed the members of the Committee, the Departmental and CapeNature officials as well as the officials from the Western Cape Provincial Parliament.

2. Briefing by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning and CapeNature on Alien Invasive Vegetation Clearing

The Department provided the Committee with the strategic context of Ecological Infrastructure and Alien Invasive Plants. The Ecological Infrastructure Investment Framework and Biomass value chain development was explained and an overview of the National Programme and the criteria for the prioritisation of certain areas was provided.

CapeNature provided the Committee with an overview of their role in the management of Invasive Alien Plants in the Western Cape.

The Department and CapeNature further provided the Committee with the status of their respective clearing programmes, the integration thereof as well as challenges experienced.

The Committee deliberated.

3. Resolutions/Actions

3.1 The Committee **REQUESTED** that the Department provides it with the Aviation Fuel Study that was undertaken.

3.2 The Committee **RESOLVED** that it would:

3.2.1 Invite the Department to brief it on its Biomass Programme as well as on the Aviation Fuel Study that was undertaken with specific reference to how biomass can be used as an opportunity for energy security and aviation fuel; and

3.2.2 Invite the Department and CapeNature to brief it on the various species of Blue Gum with specific reference its classification, the issuing of permits and the role that it plays in the ecosystem.

3.3 The Committee **RECOMMENDED** that The Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, in collaboration with the Departments of Local Government and Human Settlements, launch an inquiry to determine the effect informal settlements have on the Western Cape's water supply and what remedial steps can be taken in this regard with the view to design a set of best practices in order to protect the quality of the Western Cape's water sources.

4. Consideration and adoption of Draft Committee Minutes

The Chairperson submitted the Draft Committee Minutes of 18 May 2021 which were considered and adopted.

5. General

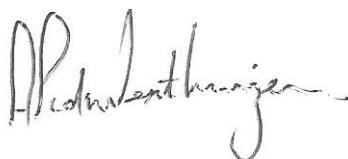
The Chairperson informed the Committee of the next committee meeting and oversight visit on 8 June 2021. The Chairperson requested the Procedural Officer to explain to the Committee why the meeting on the Final Mandate Stage Reports on the National Forests Amendment Bill [B 11B–2016] (NCOP) (s76) and the National Environmental Management Laws Amendment Bill [B 14D–2017] (NCOP) (s76) which were due to be considered on 8 June was postponed to 11 June 2021.

The Chairperson further informed the Committee that it would now meet with the Department of Agriculture in Elsenburg on 8 June 2021 to discuss the future curricula of the Agricultural Institute, receive information on the Drone Project that was launched recently and also observe how the drones work.

The Committee agreed that members may make use of their private vehicles on 8 June 2021 and that the cost incurred in this regard be allocated to the Committee's budget.

The Chairperson expressed his appreciation to the members, officials and guests for their contribution to the success of the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 16:06.



MR AP VAN DER WESTHUIZEN, MPP
CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Date:15 June 2021.....