



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

Ref: 11/4/1/2/16

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Tuesday, 22 August 2017 (at 08h30), Committee Room 1, 4th Floor, 7 Wale Street, Cape Town

PRESENT

Members

Democratic Alliance

Hinana, NE (Alternate)
Schäfer, BA
Simmers, TA (Chairperson)

African National Congress

Beerwinkel, CF (ANC)
Dijana, TM

Apology

Mackenzie, RD (DA)

The following persons were in attendance:

Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning

Mr A Mohamed, Chief Director: Environmental Governance
Dr E Palmer, Director: Environmental Law Enforcement
Ms M Laros, Director: Biodiversity and Coastal Management
Mr A Gaffoor, Director: Strategic and Operational Support
Mr A Ackhurst, Head of Corporate Diversity
Mr Z Toefy, Head of Rectification
Mr S Mallick, Specialist Environmental Officer
Mr A Holliday, Specialist Environmental Officer
Ms M Hoosain, Specialist Environmental Officer
Mr Z Allie, Specialist Environmental Officer
Ms F Zingitwa-Lwana, Specialist Environmental Officer
Mr J Liebenberg, Specialist Environmental Officer
Mr F Said, Specialist Environmental Officer
Ms J van Zyl, Specialist Environmental Officer

Mr N Albertyn, Specialist Environmental Officer
Ms N Benjeddon, Specialist Environmental Officer
Ms M Abrahams, Graduate Intern
Ms N Parker-Mallick, Graduate Intern
Ms A Kili, Graduate Intern
Ms U Mlotha, Graduate Intern
Mr L Nyakaza, Graduate Intern
Mr R Dalwadi, Graduate Intern
Ms N Achmat, Graduate Intern

CapeNature

Dr R Omar, Chief Executive Officer
Dr E Baard, Executive Director: Biodiversity Support

Democratic Alliance

Mr J Chingane, Researcher

1. Opening and Welcome

The Chairperson opened the meeting by welcoming the members of the Committee, the Departmental officials and the Graduate interns.

2. Briefing by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning and CapeNature on Programme 3: Compliance and Enforcement

The Department provided the Committee with background information on Environmental Law Enforcement in relation to its mandate in terms of the Constitution and the Legal Framework in which it operates. The impact of environmental crime on the provinces natural resources and bio-security was highlighted. The Department further informed the Committee of the role of the Green Scorpions and the Biodiversity Crime Unit. The responsibilities of the Environmental Management Inspectors, the type of environmental crimes that have been investigated as well as the training of the Inspectors were emphasised. Mechanisms to enforce compliance to Environmental Legislation as well as the related challenges were also addressed.

In addition, the Department explained the application of Section 24G of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998, as amended), and its correlation to litigation cases.

CapeNature provided the Committee with background information on Biodiversity crime and its role and function within this crime domain through co-ordination and assistance. The collaboration between CapeNature and the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning as well as with external stakeholders was highlighted.

3. Resolutions/Actions

- 3.1 The Committee REQUESTED that the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning provides it with:

- 3.1.1 A list of the abattoirs that are operating illegally, including the name of the municipality concerned; and
- 3.1.2 A written update on the state of affairs at the Matzikama Waste Disposal Site.
- 3.2 The Committee RECOMMENDED that:
 - 3.2.1 The Executive Mayor of the City of Cape Town investigate the appalling conditions in Masiphumelele where the canal, as reported by the Department, is filled with human faeces and other waste due to the lack of ablution facilities; and
 - 3.2.2 The City of Cape Town arranges an intergovernmental blitz pertaining to the dumping of waste in the Philippi Horticultural Area as this area plays a role in safeguarding Cape Town's food security as well as the value it holds for the City in terms of the underground body of water that lies below the Cape Flats, known as the Cape Flats Aquifer.
- 3.3 The Committee further RESOLVED to, at a future date, invite the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning to brief it on the reformation of the waste sector with specific reference to the recycling of abattoir waste into other commodities such as soap and the economic opportunities associated to this. The Departments of Agriculture and Economic Development and Tourism will be invited to participate in this briefing.

4. Consideration and adoption of Draft Committee Minutes

The Chairperson submitted the Draft Committee Minutes of 1 and 18 August 2017 which were considered and adopted.

The meeting adjourned at 10h45.



MR TA SIMMERS, MPP
CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Date: 12/9/2017