Climate Change Act

30 May 2023



Current climate related legal context - International

- Paris Agreement
- National Determined Contributions (NDCs)



ARCHITECTURE OF THE BILL:

Chapter 2: Policy Alignment and Institutional Arrangements

Chapter 3: CC Response – Municipalities and Provinces

Chapter 4: National Adaptation to impacts of CC

Chapter 5: GHG Emissions and Removals

Chapter 6: General Matters and Transitional

Arrangements



Chapter 2: Policy Alignment and Institutional Arrangements

- Organised labour, civil society and business may advise on CC response, mitigation and adaptation towards a just transition
- PROVINCIAL FORUMS ON CLIMATE CHANGE
- MUNICIPAL FORUMS ON CLIMATE CHANGE
- PRESIDENTIAL CLIMATE COMMISSION



Chapter 3: CC Response – Provinces and Municipalities

(pp) MEC / MAYOR MUST:

- Undertake CC Needs and Response Assessment (NRA)
- Assess extent to which mandate is affected by CC
- Revise NRA every 5 years
- CC response implementation plan (revise every 5 years)
 - Analyse CC needs and risks
 - Identify and spatially map vulnerabilities
 - Be based on best available science
 - Determine response measures and mechanisms
- Plan must form part of environmental implementation plan (province) or integrated development plan (munic).



Chapter 4: National Adaptation to CC Impacts

(pp) MINISTER(S?) MUST (1 year after act comes into operation)

Indicators for measuring progress

(pp) MINISTER(S?) MUST (2 years after act comes into operation) publish National Adaptation Strategy and Plan (NASP):

 Provide integrated and coordinated approach to adaptation management in all spheres of government, as well as NGOs, private sector and communities (where relevant)



Chapter 5: GHG Emissions and Removals

- NATIONAL GHG EMISSIONS TRAJECTORY
- SECTORAL EMISSIONS TARGETS (SETs)
- LISTED GHGs AND ACTIVITIES No timeframe prescribed!
- CARBON BUDGETS No timeframe prescribed!
- NATIONAL GHG INVENTORY No obligation for this to be public



Chapter 6: General Matters and Transitional Arrangements

OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

- Offence to fail to prepare and submit GHG mitigation plan
- Reaffirms Higher carbon tax rate