



# **BRIEFING BY THE DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES & THE ENVIRONMENT**

**PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE**

**CLIMATE CHANGE BILL: COMMENTS AND RESPONSES  
REPORT**

**JULY 2023**



forestry, fisheries  
& the environment

Department:  
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment



# PURPOSE

The aim of the presentation is to:

- Brief the Portfolio Committee on the Comments and Response Report (CRR) compiled from the public hearings conducted on the Climate Change Bill.



# STRATEGIC FOCUS OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE BILL

- The Climate Change Bill seeks to:
  - enable the alignment of policies that influence South Africa's climate change response, to ensure that South Africa's transition to a low carbon and climate resilient economy and society is not constrained by contradictory policy directives;
  - enhance South Africa's ability and capacity over time to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and build climate resilience, whilst also reducing the risk of job losses, and promoting opportunities for new job opportunities in the emerging green economy sectors; and
  - strengthen co-ordination between national sector departments, and provide policy setting and decision-making to enable South Africa to meet the commitments in its Nationally Determined Contribution.



# SUMMARY BACKGROUND

- The Portfolio Committee conducted physical and virtual public hearings on the Climate Change Bill from February to July 2023.
- **Number of Submissions Received by the Portfolio Committee:**
  - Received 101 Substantive written submission; and
  - Received 1001 composite emails from Dear South Africa.
- **Key documents for consideration**
  - Briefing Presentation which summarizes the Comments and Responses Report (48 pages); and
  - Comprehensive Comments and Response Report (650 pages)



# STRUCTURE OF THE BRIEFING PRESENTATION

- The detailed briefing presentation (48 pages) is structured as follows;
  - **Part A:** Oral and written comments with recommended amendments to the Bill: pages 1 to 19 of the briefing presentation. There are proposed amendments relating to:
    - definitions,
    - the Presidential Climate Commission (its establishment, form, structure, functions, removal of discretion, appointment of Commissioners, the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson, terms of office, financial administration, office of the Executive Director, and reporting).
    - Removal of discretion by change from the use of “may” to ‘must’ in certain clauses etc.



# STRUCTURE OF THE BRIEFING PRESENTATION...

- **Part B:** Oral and written comments with no recommended amendments to the Bill: pages 20 to 35 of the briefing presentation.
  - No proposed amendments but all the stakeholder comments are fully addressed.
- **Part C:** Comments related to other stakeholders (other Departments; Municipalities and Parliament): pages 36 to 48 of the briefing presentation.
  - Highlighted stakeholders include municipalities, the South African Local Government Association (SALGA), The Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA), The Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE); the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development and Land Reform (DALRRD) and Parliament.
- For a record of all the comments received and responses thereto please refer to the Comments and Responses Report (650 pages).



Thank You



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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

