

**MINISTER**

**HUMAN SETTLEMENTS, WATER AND SANITATION**

**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES**

**QUESTION FOR ORAL REPLY**

**QUESTION NO.: 124**

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**Ms C Visser (North West: DA) to ask the Minister of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation:**

Whether she intends to address land invasion crisis (a) through an amendment and/or (b) by introducing new legislation which would require Parliament to consider the provisions that address the prevention of the implementation of Prevention of Illegal Eviction from and Unlawful Occupation of Land Act, 1998 (Act No. 19 of 1998); if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? **CO911E**

**REPLY:**

The Department has finished drafting a macro policy on land for human settlements purposes which will be submitted to Cabinet and a process of consultation. At this stage it not clear whether the macro policy will lead to an amendment of the existing legislation or to new legislation. The options would require Parliament to either consider the provisions that address the prevention of the implementation of Prevention of illegal evictions from and unlawful occupation of land Act, 1998 (Act no 19 of 1990) or new legislation. The macro policy on land proposes that the land for human settlements must be assembled and measures must be taken to prevent invasions of such land.

I had convened a MinMEC meeting on 30 July 2020 wherein I presented a proposal to expedite rapid land release, the upgrading of informal settlements and address the unlawful occupation of land. All sector provinces and municipalities endorsed the proposal and I will be approaching the relevant government structures for approval of the proposed policy.

The Department of Human Settlements provides support to the Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) on Land Reform, which amongst others, is geared towards ensuring that the Departments of Public Works and Infrastructure, Public Enterprise and other Public Entities release 114 000 hectares of land for the development of human settlements.