



**forestry, fisheries
& the environment**

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 351 {NW364E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 2 of 2022

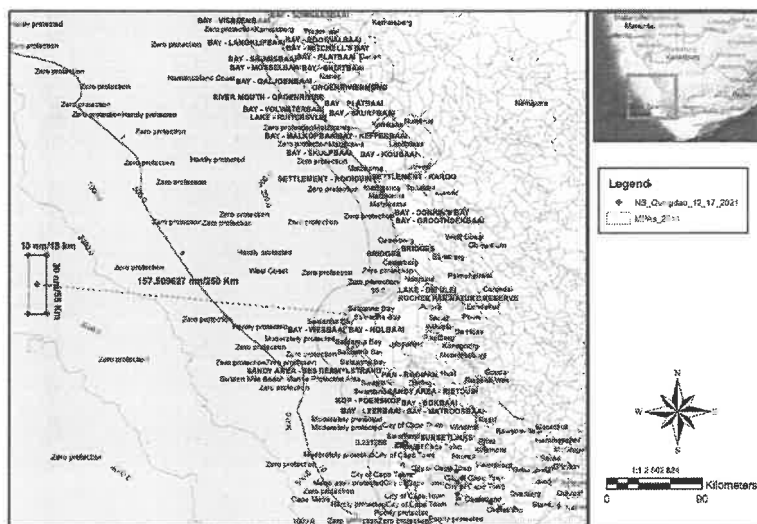
DATE OF PUBLICATION: 18 February 2022

Ms A M M Weber (DA) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

- (1) (a) Who will be doing the investigation into the cargo carrier NS Qindao that left Durban Harbour in November 2021 when the cargo aboard started to emit toxic fumes after more than 1000 tonnes of the cargo have already been removed and (b) on what date is it anticipated that we will receive the report of the investigation;
- (2) (a) what exactly is the destination of this vessel and (b) which chemical waste site will be used to dump the chemically neutralised waste;
- (3) what has she found to be the potential threat on marine and human life if the chemicals are not contained in line with the emergency control management introduced by the teams of salvors, chemical experts, hazardous materials response teams and emergency personnel that are managing the emergency controls in order to contain the situation,
- (4) what is the exact location and/or destination on the West Coast where the SA Maritime Safety Authority will be carrying 1500 tonnes of chemicals 250 km offshore and 3km deep in the water?

351. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:

- (1) a) The South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA), as the mandated entity under South Africa's maritime transport legislation, is conducting an investigation into the incident. Other authorities, including the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), are available to assist.
b) The investigation is ongoing and the date of completion will be determined by SAMSA.
- (2) a) The vessel will depart for Brazil for the remainder of the cargo to be discharged.
b) The non-reactive cargo is being taken to the Vissershok hazardous waste disposal site.
- (3) The potential threat on marine and human life would have been the compromising and sinking of the vessel due to high temperatures in the hold and possible oil and chemical spills as a result of the ship sinking near the coastline. There also existed the risk of an explosive event at sea, which would have endangered the lives of the crew and salvors onboard the vessel.
- (4) The dumpsite is located at co-ordinates 32° 30' S; 015° 15' E. The image below depicts the general spatial location and extent of the site.



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MS B D CREECY, MP

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES

DATE: 25/2/2022