**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 4027 / NW4573E**

**MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES:**

**Mr T Z Hadebe (DA) to ask the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries:**

**QUESTION:**

 (1) Whether the proceeds from the sale and/or auction of abalone (a) in each of the past five calendar years and (b) since 1 January 2017 have been specifically allocated to protect the fishing industry; if not, (i) why not and (ii) what was done with the proceeds; if so, what are the relevant details;

(2) whether the sales and/or auctions are audited by an accredited auditor; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? **NW4573E**

**REPLY:**

(1) (a) The proceeds from sale of abalone went back to the Marine Living Resources Fund (MLRF).

(b) (i) and (ii) The proceeds in all cases were utilised to fund the MLRF initiatives which included Research, Compliance, Aquaculture and Resource Management, all which embodies the overarching managing of resources as mandated within the context of the MLRA policies.

(2) All proceeds were audited by the Auditor General (AG) and included and reported within context of Annual Report.