



## forestry, fisheries & the environment

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

Ref: O2/1/5/2

### NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 4521 {NW5649E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 50 of 2022

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 25 November 2022

**Mr D W Bryant (DA) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment:**

(1) (a) What number of meetings have been held by the Mintech Working Group, which is chaired by the SA National Biodiversity Institute, (b)(i) on what date and (ii) where was each meeting held and (c) on what date will the next meeting be convened.

(2) what (a) is the core mandate of the Mintech Working Group and (b) are the intended outcomes.

(3) what were the potential stumbling blocks that were identified for the smooth functioning of the working group?

**4521. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:**

(1) (a) None. The South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) is not the chair of the Mintech Working Group meetings, but they participate in the meetings. The working group meetings precede the Mintech meetings. Working group meetings are attended by representatives from concurrent provincial departments, environmental authorities, public entities, and relevant sector departments. Working groups are chaired by the relevant Chief Directors in the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE).

Mintech is a technical intergovernmental forum attended by concurrent provincial heads of departments, CEOs of public entities and environmental authorities, and relevant sector departments. The meeting is chaired by the Director-General of the DFFE.

(b) (i) (ii) Please see the attached meeting schedule.

(c) The 2023 calendar schedule is in the process of being finalised and the next meetings will be held in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of the 2022/2023 financial year.

(2) (a) The mandate of the working groups, in terms of section 30(a) and (b) of the Intergovernmental Relations Framework Act, 2005 (Act No. 13 of 2005), involves the Technical Intergovernmental Forum to discuss concurrent issues that affect the sector and recommend to Mintech and Minmec for approval. In addition, the overall objective of the working group is to support the Mintech/Technical Implementation Forum to achieve its desired outcome as follows, namely to develop, maintain and implement an effective governance framework in a manner that ensures that the unacceptable past, current and future impacts on the quality of the environment, forestry and fisheries sectors are minimised, mitigated or managed in line with government policy, legislation, goals and strategies.

(b) The intended outcomes per working group are to monitor progress against an agreed sector work plan, which is aligned to the 2019-2024 Environment Sector Medium-Term Strategic Framework (MTSF).

(3) Overall the working groups function well and report to the Minister on progress.



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**MS B D CREECY, MP**  
**MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

DATE: 04/12/2022