Extracted from Procedural Developments

08102/ Device

The Maribus Industries needed the water space in order to engage in mariculture of seaweed in the St Helena Bay area for a period of 15 years. According to the Department, the benefits of this activity would include job creation for between 15 to 50 people.

On 15 May, the proposal was referred to the Portfolio Committee on Environmental Affairs and Tourism for consideration and report. The Portfolio Committee reported on the matter on 14 August and the National Assembly approved the Lease on 5 September.

SOUTH AFRICAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION (SABC) BOARD

In terms of section 13 of the Broadcasting Act 44 of 1999, the President appoints twelve non-executive members to serve on the SABC Board, on the advice of the National Assembly. The members of the Board hold office for such period as the President may determine, which period must however not exceed five years.

The Minister of Communications wrote to the Speaker indicating that the tenure of the current non-executive members of the SABC Board was to expire in March 2004, and further requested that the process of appointing a new SABC Board be initiated during the current Parliamentary session.

The Minister's letter was tabled in the ATC of 30 June and referred to the Portfolio Committee on Communications for consideration and report. The Committee was requested to report to the House by 7 November.

The Portfolio Committee reported on 17 November, and on 19 November the House after a division, approved that the following persons as nominated by the Committee, be recommended for appointment as non-executive members of the SABC Board: S E Funde, A Gilwald, N Gosa, F Lagadien, A Maralack, E T Mazwai, A Mbeki, K, Mkhonza, C Msomi, C Qunta, D Swartz and A Trikamjee.

35. PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In terms of section 196(7) of the Constitution, five Commissioners of the Commission are appointed by the President following the approval of the National Assembly after a public notice process and a recommendation by a committee of the National Assembly.

The Speaker received correspondence, dated 10 September, from the Presidency for the filling of vacancies in the Public Service Commission. The letter requested for approval in terms of section 4(1) of the Public Service Commission Act No 46 of 1997, by the National Assembly of the appointment of five fit and proper persons as contemplated in Section 196 (10) of the Constitution to enable the filling of the following vacancies:

- (a) Two existing vacancies for national commissioners;
- (b) With effect from 1 January 2004, the two vacancies for national commissioners which would arise when the term of office of two commissioners expired on 31 December 2003;
- (c) With effect from 1 July 2004, the vacancy for a national commissioner, which would arise when the term of office of commissioner Prof S S Sangweni expired on 30 June 2004.

The President further advised in the letter that in view of the limited sittings in 2004 due to elections it seemed advisable that the process in the National Assembly regarding the vacancies be finalized before the end of the 2003 Parliamentary session and the names be forwarded to his office by the end of November 2003.

The letter was referred, on 23 September, to the Portfolio Committee on Public Service and Administration for consideration and report. On 18 November, the National Assembly, on the recommendation of the Portfolio Committee on Public Service and Administration, approved the following persons for appointment or reappointment to the Public Service Commission:

N Mxakato-Diseko

K Mokgalong

J H Ernstzen (Existing commissioner), with effect from 1 January 2004.

E G Bain (Existing Commissioner) with effect from 1 January 2004.

S S Sangweni (Existing Commissioner) with effect from 1 July 2004.

36. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON OF LOTTERIES BOARD

The Lotteries Act of 1997, in section 3(3), determines that the Chairperson of the National Lotteries Board shall be appointed only after "the relevant committee of the National Assembly has made recommendations to the Minister". The portfolio committee's recommendation in regard to a suitable candidate could, therefore, be made directly to the Minister without the House having to approve the recommendation.

However, in a letter to Speaker dated 24 November, the Minister of Trade and Industry requested that the Portfolio Committee on Trade and Industry's recommendation be placed on the Order Paper for consideration by the House on 27 November (the last sitting day for the year).

The Committee's report was published in the ATC on 26 November and on 27 November the House approved the Committee's recommendation of Mr J A Foster for appointment as Chairperson of the National Lotteries Board.

