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NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 1857 {NW2108E}
INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 18 of 2023

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Ms H S Winkler (DA) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

- (1) Whether, with reference to her reply to question 446 on 10 March 2023, her department has taken a policy position no longer to take accountability for managing the trends of hunting activity within the Republic, notwithstanding that the information was previously provided through her reply to question 800 on 25 March 2022 when she undertook to take accountability for managing the specified trends and that the information was in the management of her department and/or SANParks as the custodians of the SA Professional Hunting Statistics which was then required to be submitted to her department by May in each year as confirmed in her reply to question 800 on 25 March 2022; if so, what are the reasons for the change in the policy position; if not,
- (2) what are the reasons that the specified statistics in the possession of her department will not be made available through a constitutionally established mechanism of a parliamentary question while the same information was released through a simple request of a certain journalist (name furnished)?

1857. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:

1) & 2) As indicated in the response to Question 446 on 10 March 2023, hunting is regulated by provincial legislation and hunting statistics are derived from the provincial departments responsible for nature conservation. The Minister has no legal mandate to produce such statistics.

The MEC of a province is the Provincial Management Authority for issues such as considering and granting permits and certificates in accordance with the provisions of national and provincial legislation, as well as preparing and submitting provincial inputs to national reports on matters of implementation, on request. The management of the hunting of various species within the country falls within the Mandate of the Provincial Conservation Authority as they are responsible for the issuance of permits to private individuals in terms of TOPS and the provincial ordinances.

MS B D CREECY, MP

MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

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