
GENERAL NOTICES ALGEMENE KENNISGEWINGS

NOTICE 756 OF 2013

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

EXPLANATORY SUMMARY OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: PROTECTED AREAS AMENDMENT BILL, 2013

The Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs intends introducing the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Amendment Bill, 2013 in Parliament shortly. An explanatory summary of the Bill is hereby published in accordance with Rule 241 (1) (c) of the Rules of the National Assembly.

The Amendment Bill intends to incorporate the management of marine protected areas into the National Environmental Management Protected Areas Act, and repeal the relevant provisions from the Marine Living Resources Act, 1998 (Act No. 18 of 1998) ("MLRA"). Fisheries and marine environmental management were previously administered by one department, the then Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism. The fisheries function was transferred from the Minister responsible for Environmental Affairs to the Minister responsible for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries via Presidential Proclamations. The administration of the MLRA was then appropriately split between the two Ministers. It is necessary to provide for legislation to give proper effect to the restructuring of the two Departments and Ministries.

The Bill therefore intends to—

- provide for the declaration of marine protected areas;
- provide for management of marine protected areas;
- make transitional arrangements;
- generally bring the management of all aspects of marine protected area management under the purview of the protected areas regime in the Act; and
- to provide for matters connected therewith.

Copies of the draft Bill can be obtained from:

1. Mr. Heinrich Muller, Department of Environmental Affairs, East Pier Building 1, East Pier Road, V&A Waterfront, Cape Town (hmuller@environment.gov.za). The draft Bill is also available on the Department of Environmental Affairs' website, www.environment.gov.za.
2. After introduction, from www.pmg.org.za or Mr. MV Pama, Parliament. P.O. Box 15, Cape Town 8000. Tel (021) 403-2078.

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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS