



agriculture, forestry & fisheries

Department:
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA RELEASE

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For immediate release

ACTION ON ALLEGED IRREGULARITIES IN THE EMERGENCY APPOINTMENT OF A SERVICE PROVIDER FOR PROCESSING, MARKETING AND SELLING OF CONFISCATED ABALONE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES.

The Honorable Minister of the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Mr. Senzeni Zokwana (“the Minister”) has received several complaints with regards to the emergency appointment of a service provider for processing, marketing and selling of confiscated abalone for the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (“the Department”) over the next few months. Given the seriousness of these allegations the Minister has decided to suspend the current award with immediate effect.

Similarly, the exemption permit issued in respect of processing the confiscated abalone has been withdrawn. The Department will in the meantime explore possible avenues in order to handle the current confiscated abalone in its premises. The Department is committed to abide to the principles of openness, fairness and transparency in dealing with this matter. The Minister wishes to thank the complainants for bringing these serious allegations to the fore as this gives us the opportunity to further strengthen our processes.

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