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DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

NO. 4772 **2 May 2024**

DRAFT 9th NATIONAL GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORY REPORT FOR THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

I, Barbara Dallas Creecy, Minister Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, hereby publish the draft 9th National Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report (the draft 9th National GHG Inventory Report) for public comment.

BACKGROUND TO THE DRAFT 9TH GHG INVENTORY REPORT

- In 1997 the Republic of South Africa ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, 1992 (the Convention). The main objective of the Convention is to stabilize Greenhouse Gas (GHG) concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous human-induced interference with the climate system.

- The ability of South Africa to achieve the objective of the Convention is highly dependent on the accurate knowledge of emissions trends and on collective ability to alter these trends. One of the mechanisms used to understand these emission trends is to prepare and update a National GHG Inventory Report. Articles 4.1(a) and 12.1(a) of the Convention obliges each State Party to prepare and report national GHG emissions and removals to the Conference of the Parties (COP). The key mechanism for reporting these GHG emissions is through the National Communications (NCs) every four years and the Biennial Update Reports (BURs) every two years. The GHG Inventory Report therefore forms an integral part of these two key reporting mechanisms to the Convention and the broader international community.

- In addition to international obligations and reporting requirements under the Convention, South Africa through its White Paper on National Climate Change Response Policy published in 2011 (the White Paper), has committed itself to prepare and update a GHG Emissions Inventory Report annually.

- According to Decision 17/CP.8,3, related to Annexure 1 of the Convention, South Africa is required as appropriate and to the extent possible, to provide in its national inventory on gas-by-gas basis and its units' mass, estimates of anthropogenic emissions of carbon dioxide (CO_2), methane (CH_4) and nitrous oxide (N_2O) by sources and removals by sinks. Non-Annex I Parties are encouraged, as appropriate to provide information on anthropogenic emissions by sources of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs) and sulphur hexafluoride (SF_6).

- Paragraph 6.7 of the White Paper requires the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (the Department) to compile accurate, complete and updated GHG emissions inventory to ensure a

good foundation for effective mitigation responses. The first National GHG inventory in South Africa was prepared in 1998, using 1990 data; and was updated to include 1994 data and published in 2004.

- In 2009, the country published the third GHG inventory which was based on the base year 2000. As recently as the year 2014, South Africa published its fourth GHG inventory covering the period 2000 – 2010. The Department subsequently compiled and published the fifth GHG Inventory Report which covered the period 2000 – 2012. The sixth GHG Inventory Report which covered the period 2000 – 2015 and the seventh GHG Inventory Report which covered a period 2000 – 2017 were also published. Recently the Department has published the eighth GHG Inventory Report covering the data from the period 2000 - 2020.

SUMMARY CONTENT OF THE DRAFT 9TH GHG INVENTORY REPORT

- The draft 9th GHG Inventory Report covers the period 2000 – 2022. It provides preliminary estimates of current emissions levels and trends in the country. It documents South Africa's submission of its National Greenhouse Gas Inventory for the period 2000 – 2022 and will form part of the first biennial transparency report (BTR1) to the Convention. It presents preliminary emissions estimates to be currently at emissions 478 887.5 $GgCO_2eq$ (excl. LULUCF) and 435 827.7$GgCO_2eq$ (incl. LULUCF).

- The draft 9th GHG Inventory Report indicates that South Africa's GHG emissions excl. LULUCF were 489 748 Gg CO2e in 2000 and these decreased by 2.2% by 2022. Emissions (excl. LULUCF) in 2022 were estimated at 478 888 Gg CO2e. The overall emissions (incl. LULUCF) were 435 828 Gg CO2e in 2022. South Africa's GHG emissions (incl. LULUCF) were 462 205 Gg CO2e in 2000 and these decreased by 5.5% by 2022. In 2022 the Energy sector was the largest contributor to the overall emissions (excl. LULUCF) in 2022, comprising 78% of total emissions. In 2022 the IPPU sector contributed 6.4% (excl. LULUCF). In 2022 the Agriculture sector contributed 11% (excl. LULUCF). Overall, the LULUCF sector increased its sink by 56.3% since 2000 and by 17.9% since 2020. The waste sector contributed 4% overall. An accurate, complete and updated greenhouse gas emissions inventory is a good foundation for effective mitigation responses.

- The draft 9th GHG Inventory Report follows the standard National Inventory Report format in line with the Convention's Reporting Guidelines (the Guidelines). Chapter 1 of the Guidelines provides an introductory chapter which contains background information for South Africa, the country's inventory preparation and reporting process, key categories, a description of the methodologies, activity data and emission factors, and a description of the Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) process.

- A summary of the aggregated GHG trends by gas and emission source is provided in Chapter 2 of the Guidelines. Chapters 3 to 7 of the Guidelines deal with detailed explanations of the emissions in the Energy; Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU); Agriculture; Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF); and Waste sectors respectively. They include an overall trend assessment, methodology, data sources, recalculations, uncertainty and time-series consistency, QA/QC procedures and planned improvements and recommendations.

- The draft 9th GHG Inventory Report is compiled in accordance with the guidelines provided by the Convention and follows the 2006 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Guidelines and IPCC Good Practice Guidance (GPG). The draft 9th GHG Inventory Report also provides a detailed explanation of the methods (Tier 1 and Tier 2 approaches), parameters such as activity data, and emission factors used to develop the inventory. In addition, it assesses the uncertainty and describes the quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) activities. Quality assurance for this GHG inventory was undertaken by independent reviewers.

Members of the public are invited to submit written comments, within 30 days from the date of the publication of this Notice in the *Gazette* or in the newspaper, whichever date comes last, to any of the following addresses:

By post to: Director-General: Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Attention: Mr Jongikhaya Witi
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Private Bag X447
Pretoria
0001

By email to: **GHGreporting@dffe.gov.za**

Hand delivered at: Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia, Pretoria, 0083.
Any inquiries in connection with the notice can be directed to Mr Jongikhaya Witi at Tel: 012 399 9151 or by email at jwiti@dffe.gov.za

This Government Notice and the draft 9th National Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report are available at the following link on the Departmental website https://www.dffe.gov.za/legislation/gazetted_notices

Comments received after the closing date may be disregarded.



BARBARA DALLAS CREECY
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

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