

GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES

NO. 715

26 JUNE 2020

MARINE LIVING RESOURCES ACT, 1998 (ACT NO. 18 OF 1998)

COMMENCEMENT OF THE 2020/21 FISHING RIGHTS ALLOCATION PROCESS ("FRAP2020/21") FOR THE GRANTING OF COMMERCIAL FISHING RIGHTS IN TERMS OF SECTION 18 OF THE MARINE LIVING RESOURCES ACT, 1998 (ACT NO 18 OF 1998) ("THE MLRA").

No.

2020

On 2 August 2019, the Minister of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (now the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment), by Government Notice No. 1019 published in Government Gazette No. 42608, withdrew Government Notice No. 637, published in Government Gazette No. 41781 on 20 July 2018 relating to the commencement date of the next Fishing Rights Allocation process ("FRAP"). Cabinet supported the decision to extend the timeframes for dealing with the fishing rights allocation process in commercial fishing sectors, which will expire on 31 December 2020. The timelines were accordingly extended to 31 December 2021.

In compliance with the Cabinet's directive, the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment ("the Department") will soon conduct Socio-Economic Impact Assessment Studies ("SEIAS") in order to review the General Policy on the Allocation and Management of Commercial Fishing Rights: 2013 ("the General Policy"), the Policy on the Transfer of Commercial Fishing Rights: 2009 ("the Transfer Policy"), the Policy on the Allocation and Management of Rights to operate Fish Processing Establishments: 2015 and the various Policies for the Allocation and Management of Commercial Fishing Rights ("the Sector-Specific Policies").

The Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries has revised the FRAP2020/21 Project Plan in order to amend the timeframes and deliverables for the 2020/2021 fishing rights allocation process. The Department intends to:

- 1) Publish a Gazette Notice inviting written comments, from 12 October 2020 until 30 November 2020, from interested and affected parties regarding the draft policies, draft application forms and proposed fees relating to the application and grant of right in the fishing industry;
- 2) Conduct public consultations, from 12 October 2020 to 27 November 2020, on the draft policies, draft application forms and proposed fees relating to the application and grant of right in the fishing industry;
- 3) Publish in a Gazette Notice an invitation for applications for fishing rights, commencing on 1 February 2021 until 2 April 2021, which applications will be receipted by the Department; and
- 4) Commence with the Fishing Rights Allocation Process and adjudication thereof with effect from 17 May 2021 until 30 November 2021



BARBARA DALLAS CREECY

MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT