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## GENERAL NOTICE

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### NOTICE 1138 OF 2007

#### DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM

#### NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: AIR QUALITY ACT, 2004 (ACT NO. 39 OF 2004)

#### NOTICE TO ESTABLISH THE NATIONAL FRAMEWORK IN TERMS SECTION 7(1) OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: AIR QUALITY ACT, 2004 (ACT NO. 39 OF 2004)

I, Marthinus Christoffel Johannes Van Schalkwyk, Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, in terms of section 7(1) of the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act, 2004 (Act No. 39 of 2004), hereby establish the National Framework for Air Quality Management in the Republic of South Africa as set out in the Schedule to this Notice.



MARTHINUS VAN SCHALKWYK, MP

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM

DATE: 11 September 2007



**THE 2007**

**NATIONAL FRAMEWORK**

**FOR AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN THE REPUBLIC**  
**OF SOUTH AFRICA**

As contemplated in Section 7 of the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act, 2004 (Act No. 39 of 2004) and serving as the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism's Air Quality Management Plan as contemplated in Section 15(1) of the Act.

**11 September 2007**

## FOREWORD

In the two years that have passed since I brought the new Air Quality Act into effect (the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act (Act No. 39 of 2004)), we have seen, among others, a number of air quality monitoring networks being established across the nation, the identification of national priority areas, plans for improving the air quality in the Vaal Triangle Air-shed Priority Area at an advanced stage of development, intergovernmental coordination and cooperation structures set up, various provinces and municipalities eagerly gearing themselves up to meet their air quality challenges, all sectors of society actively participating in standard-setting and planning processes and the fledgling South African Air Quality Information System (SAAQIS) starting to provide South Africans with access to national air quality information.

Notwithstanding these achievements, the establishment of the 2007 National Framework for Air Quality Management, is a milestone in government's attempts to introduce a new efficient and effective air quality management regime in South Africa. For the first time, all interested South Africans have contributed to the establishment of the first national plan to clear our skies of pollution and ensure ambient air that is not harmful to health and well-being.

As an inaugural framework, it has been necessary to unpack the new Air Quality Act in some detail to ensure that all South African's understand the intentions of the Act's provisions. Never the less, although the framework may read like text book in some areas, it is a text book that is important and timely.

Furthermore, although the department has initiated a number of projects that will move the framework to a far more technical document in the future, the 2007 National Framework provides an excellent foundation for future frameworks. In this regard, and considering the rapidly evolving air quality management sector across the country, I have instructed the department to immediately initiate another round of consultations aimed at compiling a 2008 National Framework that will capture the technical norms and standards being developed by the various projects currently underway.

To provide further context and a baseline for measuring progress in the implementation of the Act and the National Framework, the department will publish a detailed State of the Air Report in December 2007. This report will be a compilation and assessment of all available air quality information up to 2005, the year that the Act was brought into effect.

The 2007 National Framework is a product of the hard work and dedication of all South Africans and I take this opportunity to thank everyone who was involved in its development.

**MARTINUS VAN SCHALKWYK, MP**  
**MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM**

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