

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION NO. B/572

B/572 The Honourable Second Member for Grand Baie and Poudre d'Or
(**Mr. Rughoobur**)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Agro-Industry and Food Security –

**Whether, in regard to the proposed introduction of a Wetland Bill in the House,
he will state where matters stand?**

(Sitting of Tuesday 09 July 2019)

Madam Speaker,

In reply to PQ B/560 on 10 July 2018, I informed the House that under a UNDP/Global Environment Facility (GEF) funded project namely, “Mainstreaming Biodiversity in the Management of the Coastal Zone of the Republic of Mauritius“, a Consultant was being recruited by the UNDP to review the first draft Wetland Bill which had been worked out by the National Ramsar Committee.

2. Under this Project, the UNDP has awarded a contract to Mr. Peter Wulf, an Environmental Legal Consultant. The contract started in November 2018 and will last till October 2019.
3. The Consultant has already carried out a first mission in Mauritius in April 2019. I met him during his visit and emphasized on the need to complete the assignment at the earliest.
4. The Consultant has had several working sessions with government departments and other stakeholders following which a gap analysis report has been prepared. The gap analysis has shown a number of legal issues that should be addressed in addition to institutional and enforcement issues.
5. I am informed that further consultations will be scheduled with a view to addressing these issues.
6. As per the agreed workplan, the Consultant will submit his version of the Wetland Bill as well as associated Regulations by October of this year.

