

Government Gazette Staatskoerant

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
REPUBLIEK VAN SUID-AFRIKA

Vol. 496

Pretoria, 11 October 2006
Oktober

No. 29288

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GOVERNMENT NOTICE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

No. 1030

11 October 2006

THE PRESIDENTIAL TASK TEAM ON AFRICAN TRADITIONAL MEDICINE IN SOUTH AFRICA

The Minister of Health, at the instance of the Presidency, hereby notifies the public of the establishment of the Presidential Task Team on African Traditional Medicine in South Africa ("the Task Team").

The Task Team comprises the following persons:

1. Prof HW Vilakazi
2. Prof BE van Wyk
3. Prof A Mbewu
4. Dr SM Zungu
5. Adv C Qunta.

The Task Team's terms of reference appear in the Schedule below.

SCHEDULE

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE TASK TEAM

1. To make recommendations with regard to a national policy and an appropriate regulatory and legal framework for the institutionalisation of African Traditional Medicine in South Africa in the healthcare system of the country, including proposing possible models to protect African Traditional Medicine in South Africa.
2. To investigate policies and practices devised and implemented by various government departments and agencies to promote African Traditional Medicine in South Africa and to make recommendations on ways in which such policies and practices can be coordinated to devise an integrated and effective policy framework for the promotion of African Traditional Medicine in South Africa.

3. To make recommendations on any steps that can be taken by the South African Government and other stakeholders to create an enabling environment for the institutionalisation of African Traditional Medicine in South Africa, including:
 - (a) the establishment of institutions of healthcare based on the theory and practice of African Traditional Medicine in South Africa;
 - (b) training and development of practitioners and researchers;
 - (c) creating practical linkages between African Traditional Medicine in South Africa and other paradigms of theory and practice of medicine; and
 - (d) the production and processing of African Traditional Medicines in South Africa.

4. To investigate and review current research methodology with regard to African Traditional Medicine in South Africa at research institutions in South Africa and to make recommendations in regard thereto.

5. To compile African Traditional Medicine knowledge in South Africa in order to preserve, codify and protect such knowledge including developing a pharmacopoeia on African Traditional Medicine in South Africa.

6. To undertake a survey of comparative international practices with regard to the institutionalisation and utilisation of Traditional Medicine in the respective healthcare systems.

7. To make any recommendation and undertake any such activity that in the opinion of the Task Team will assist it to achieve the objectives set out in these Terms of Reference.

DR ME TSHABALALA-MSIMANG
MINISTER OF HEALTH
