

MEDICINES CONTROL COUNCIL



SCHEDULING MATTERS SCHEDULING OF IBOGAINE

TO ALL APPLICANTS

Please be advised that at a recent meeting of the Medicines Control Council, Council resolved that *ibogaine* (12-methoxyibogamine) be included in the Schedules as a Schedule 6 substance.

Currently, *ibogaine* does not appear in the Schedules and is freely available and is used in "treatment centres" around South Africa for the treatment of morphine, cocaine and heroin addiction.

The reasons for the inclusion in the listing for Schedule 6 include the following:

- The lack of evidence on the safety and efficacy of *ibogaine* and related products does not support its general access to the public;
- The central nervous system, cardiovascular and associated deaths (uncontrolled used without medical supervision) related to the use of *ibogaine*;
- The medicinal claims attached to *ibogaine* and preparations thereof are similar to the schedule entries of other indole-like Schedule 6 substances.

Please be advised that the office of the Registrar is in the process of drafting an amendment to the published Schedules, for consideration by the Minister of Health and publication in the *Government Gazette*.

Yours faithfully

DR JC GOUWS
REGISTRAR OF MEDICINES