



## MEDIA RELEASE

### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CALLS FOR THE REGISTRATION OF COMPLEMENTARY MEDICINES WITH THE MEDICINES CONTROL COUNCIL

It has come to the attention of the National Department of Health that an increased number of so-called complementary medicines are being sold in the country which may pose significant risks to the South African public. For this reason the Minister of Health has called for the registration of these complementary medicines by amending the Medicines and Related Substances Act, 1965 (Act 101 of 1965) on 15 November 2013 making it a requirement for the Medicines Control Council to evaluate and pronounce on the safety, quality and efficacy of these medicines.

In order to advise and guide companies that import, manufacture and sell complementary medicines on the requirements to comply with, as provided for by the legislative amendment, the Department of Health together with the Medicines Control Council are planning to conduct a number of one day information sessions. Interested persons are invited to attend any one of these day information sessions and to register via e-mail using the following address: [ThembK@health.gov.za](mailto:ThembK@health.gov.za)

The Venue of the information sessions:

National Department of Health, Impilo Board Room, c/o Thabo Sehume (Andries) and Struben Streets, Centre of Pretoria, PRETORIA

Date of Information sessions: 07 February, 11 February or 13 February 2014

Time: 09h00-17h00

**Closing date for registration: 24 January 2014**

Some topics that will be discussed during the information sessions include:

- The legislative scene for the control of Complementary medicines
- The process and requirements to register Complementary medicines with the Medicines Control Council

Complementary medicines are regarded medicines that originate from plants, minerals or animals and are intended to be used for assisting the innate healing power of a human or an animal by mitigating, modifying, alleviating or preventing illness or symptoms.