

MEDIA STATEMENT

HPCSA SPECIAL INVESTIGATION UNIT UPDATE

16 March 2021

For immediate release

Pretoria - In accordance with the Presidential Proclamation regarding the Special Investigating Unit (SIU) and the Special Tribunals ACT, 1996 (ACT NO. 74 OF 1996), the President of the Republic of South Africa, the Honourable Cyril Ramaphosa approved the Health Professions Council of South Africa's (HPCSA) request to investigate any conduct of maladministration, corruption or corrupt activities (including fraud) in connection with the mandate of Council as contained in the Health Professions Act 56 of 1974.

The investigations were against any person, including amongst others to determine:

1. Maladministration in connection with the affairs of the HPCSA regarding the exercise of its functions in terms of the Health Professions Act, 1974.
2. Any unlawful or improper conduct by the employees or officials of the HPCSA or any other person regarding the registration of health practitioners, in terms of the Health Professions Act, 1974.

The investigation commenced in 2019, covering the period 2016 to 2019 as per the proclamation. Several reports have since been received by Council and the recent one being on 12 March 2021 in which several employees have been allegedly implicated in acts of corruption/ bribery to expedite registration processes. As a result, 16 employees have been placed on precautionary suspension as part of the disciplinary processes in line with the disciplinary codes and procedure in the HPCSA.

“The HPCSA condemns such unethical business practices within the organisation and it is committed to ensure that such behaviour does not occur in the future” said Professor Nmutandani, President of the Health Professions of Council”.

END

About the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA)

The Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) also known as Council is a statutory body established under the Health Professions Act 56 of 1974. The HPCSA is committed to protecting the public and guiding the professions. The mission of the HPCSA is quality and equitable healthcare for all.

The HPCSA is mandated to regulate the health professions in the country in aspects pertaining to education, training and registration, professional conduct and ethical behaviour, ensuring Continuing Professional Development (CPD), and fostering compliance with healthcare standards.

In order to safeguard the public and guiding the professions, registration in terms of the Act is a prerequisite for practising any of the health professions registrable with Council.

Issued by:

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