

IPASA Statement
19th February 2014

The Innovative Pharmaceutical Association SA (IPASA)'s Chief Operating Officer, Val Beaumont has issued the following statement "The Innovative Pharmaceutical Association SA (IPASA) confirms that it has **not** and will not contract the PR consultancy, PAE, in relation to intellectual property, or any other matter, in South Africa. The decision-making process mandated by the IPASA Constitution requires that proposals of this sort have to be formally approved by the Membership Council of IPASA. However, before a formal decision by IPASA was made to reject the PR proposal, the PR proposal was leaked to the media. News reports are thus inaccurate in attributing the implementation of the lobbying strategy to IPASA.

The Draft South African National Policy on Intellectual Property is a matter of vital importance to the future of the healthcare sector and indeed to all other innovative industries in South Africa. IPASA has participated in the South African Department of Trade and Industry's public consultation process and made a comprehensive submission to the Department when the Draft National Policy on IP was published for comment. IPASA indicated support for the Government initiative to formulate a coherent and inclusive National Policy on IP. Furthermore, the Association endorsed and supported many of the policy statements and policy recommendations put forward in the draft IP Policy document. Contrary to reports, where IPASA held a different view, our position was submitted in a rational and constructive manner.

IPASA positions on the draft National Intellectual Property Policy are available in full and in a summary version on our website:

Issued by
Val Beaumont
Chief Operating Officer: IPASA
Mobile: 082 828 3256
Landline: 011 781 3256
Email: val@ipasa.co.za