

**Ms Elena Zdravkova**

Senior Manager: Patents and Design, Companies and IP Commission

**Ms Meshendri Padayachy**

Deputy Director: IP Policy and Law, Consumer and Corporate Regulation Division (CCRD)

**the dti** Campus

Sunnyside, PRETORIA

16 March 2015

Dear Ms Zdravkova and Ms Padayachy

#### **PROPOSED SUBSTANTIVE SEARCH AND EXAMINATION: SUBMISSION BY IPASA**

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A Roundtable Discussion on matters pertaining to the proposed introduction of a Substantive Search and Examination system in respect of South African patent applications took place on 9 February 2015. The stakeholders and interested parties present were invited to submit written comments and proposals on the matters discussed by 16 March 2015.

The Innovative Pharmaceutical Association of SA (IPASA) was also invited to attend. I, in my capacity as the Chief Executive Officer of IPASA, represented IPASA at the meeting.

IPASA is a non-profit association that represents leading global pharmaceutical research and biotechnology companies that are devoted to inventing medicines that enable patients to live longer, healthier, and more productive lives.

In response to the invitation, IPASA secured the assistance of Adams and Adams in developing constructive and informed comment for consideration by **the dti** and CIPC.

Due consideration of the comments and proposals made by IPASA will be sincerely appreciated.

Yours sincerely



**Dr Konji Sebati**  
Chief Executive Officer  
IPASA