



4TH ANNUAL SADC INDUSTRIALISATION WEEK

Mitigation measures against counterfeit drugs in South Africa

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Background

The PCAG was established in 2000 under the auspices of the Revert Risk Management Group. Concerned members of the industry as well as certain government departments got together to have monthly meetings to address industry problems.

The PCAG has been successful in facilitating convictions together with SAPS for charges against unregistered medicine, possession of scheduled medicine etc.

The PCAG has amongst others things recently been focusing on ways in preventing counterfeit medicine from entering the market.

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Strategy

- ❖ Is an initiative from industry itself.
- ❖ Long-term goals need to be established as opposed to short term goals.
- ❖ The need for industry to develop a common understanding of the terminology used to describe types of pharmaceutical crime.
- ❖ Understanding that it is a united onslaught against crime and not one company against the rest (to score political points.)

Objective

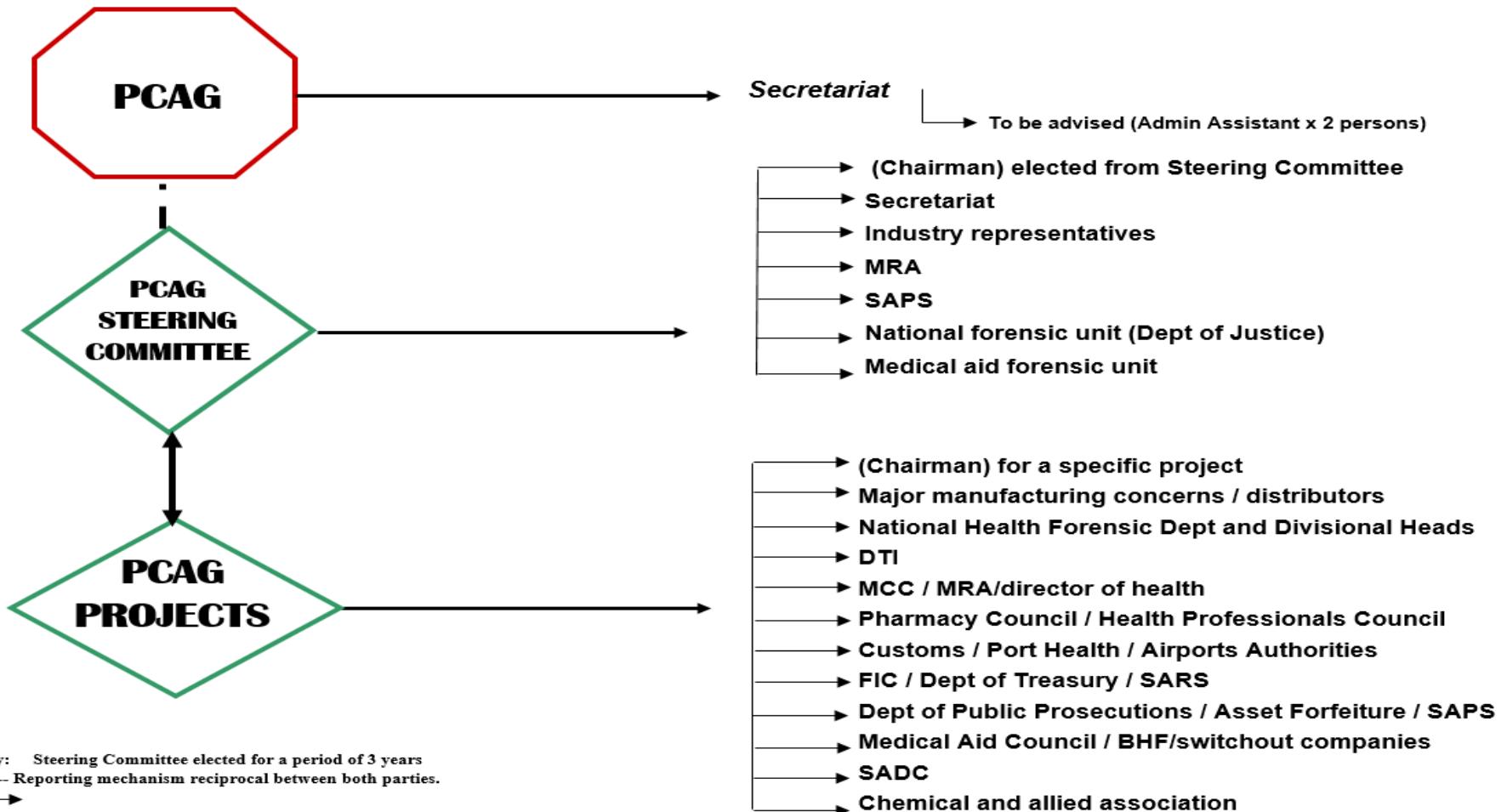
- ❖ Member bodies of the PCAG agree to:
- ❖ Consider the threat posed by the activities of Pharmaceutical crime and fraud.
- ❖ Develop a better understanding of the nature, extent and impact of pharmaceutical crime and fraud.
- ❖ Prevent fraud within the industry.
- ❖ Contribute towards policy formation and legislation, helping to change and improve legislation to combat pharmaceutical crime and fraud.
- ❖ Commit to preserve and maintain good corporate governance within the industry and protect the integrity of financial institutions, from being used by criminals laundering the proceeds of crime derived from pharmaceutical crime.
- ❖ Improve and implement systems to counteract the perpetration of pharmaceutical crime.
- ❖ Acknowledge that regional and international cooperation is critical in the fight against pharmaceutical crime and fraud.



Goals of the PCAG

- ❖ To provide the government, the general public, and the healthcare industry with updated information and advice on relevant issues in the healthcare sector.
- ❖ To contribute towards policy formation and legislation, helping to change and improve legislation for the benefit of all stakeholders.
- ❖ To develop relationships with international organizations with similar interests and ideas.
- ❖ To develop and implement education programmes for all law enforcement agencies, university pharmacy faculties and related departments.
- ❖ Identify and agree on comprehensive anti- crime measures in all member jurisdictions.
- ❖ Oversee and facilitate the implementation of anti-crime measures to combat pharmaceutical crime.

Proposed structure of PCAG



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Impact of IP infringement on humans

- ❖ No active or insufficient or incorrect ingredients, contaminated, poorly made or toxic.
- ❖ Inability to trace product to manufacturer –GMP.
- ❖ Lacks safety compliance confirmation, e.g. UL, or elements such as fire retardation.
- ❖ Explodes, burns, causes fire, malfunctions.
- ❖ Recycled expired products – forged labels.
- ❖ Dissuades market participation and innovation.

Impact of Counterfeit medicine

- ❖ Multi-drug resistant TB and malaria
- ❖ Cheap drugs become ineffective
- ❖ Loss of cheap drugs will require new drugs
- ❖ Increased morbidity and mortality
- ❖ Significant economic burden – loss of breadwinner, death and medical costs.



THANK YOU

Pharmaceutical Crime Action Group (PCAG)
Jaco Pietersen (Clicks Group) (PCAG Concept)
Robin Bhagwandass (Chair PCAG)



Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC), South Africa

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