

DATE: 11 November 2019

MEDIA ADVISORY

INSTITUTE FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION IN AFRICA (IDRA) WILL HOST THE SECOND (2ND) COMMUNITY INDABA/CONFERENCE ON THE CURRENT STATUS OF DECRIMINALISATION AND LEGALISATION OF DAGGA IN SOUTH AFRICA ON 14 NOVEMBER 2019.

ATTENTION: NEWS, ASSIGNMENT EDITORS, PRODUCERS, EDUCATIONAL AND LEGAL REPORTERS

The Institute for Dispute Resolution in Africa (IDRA) in the College of Law at the University of South Africa (UNISA) will host a Community Indaba/Conference on the 14th of November 2018 in Tshwane, Pretoria under the theme “Commercialisation, Exploitation, Industrialisation, Victimisation, and Indigenous Knowledge Systems of Dagga (Cannabis Sativa) at the Cross Roads in South Afrika 25 years later under Constitutional Transformative Law” and its sub-theme “Decriminalising Dagga in South Africa: Re-birth of the Debate within the Legal and University Research Agenda”.

The current economic debate on dagga in South Africa has entered and centered on its positive and negative effects on commercialisation, industrialisation, exploitation and victimisation of the communities of practice as well as its decriminalisation process within the legal context.

The second (2nd) community indaba on decriminalisation of dagga is a follow up engagement from the first (1st) Community indaba that was convened in Kgorong function hall, UNISA in november 2018, under the theme ‘Dagga, Culture, Spirituality and Colonial law in Afrika.

It will further engage on the current debates, development, commercialisation, industrialisation, exploitation, victimisation and the integration of law transformation curriculum on protection and promotion of indigenous and endogenous knowledge systems in South Africa.

The South African government plans for the development of the hemp and dagga sector and the potential of job creation in the name of the dawn for the dagga in South Africa under the guise of regulation, and commercialisation will be interrogated during the community indaba.

The head of IDRA, David Matome Letsoalo is of the view that „One of the outcomes of the second community dagga indaba must be to create a reservoir of community knowledge led by community researchers, activist and thinkers on dagga so as to protect their natural resources and also their cultural identity“

The expected community knowledge holders and elders will be:

Kgosi Setlamorago Thobejane

Kgosi Selabe Masibi

Ras Garreth Prince (Chairperson of Cannabis Development Council of South Africa)

Khoi Petrus Vaalbooi

Gogo Phephesile Maseko (Traditional Healers Organization)

Blondie Makhene

Ras Thau- Thau, (Rastafarian United Front President),

Mkhulu Nzingiza Hlongwane

Kgosi Nchaupe Makapan

Kgosi Mampuru

Kgosi Mogoboya

Rra Letjatji Bokaba

South African Law Reform Commission representative

South African Health

South African Human Rights Commission representative

CRL Rights Commission representative

Political Parties

South African Police Service research department

UNISA College of Law and Law Clinic representative

UNISA all Colleges (research departments)

UNISA Radio and external media

Details of the Community Indaba/ Conference on Dagga are as follow:

Date: 14 November 2019

Time: 08:30 – 18:00

Venue: Kgorong Building, Function Hall, University of South Africa Main Campus, Tshwane, Pretoria

Members of the media are invited to attend and cover the Community Indaba/ conference on the current status of decriminalisation and legalisation of dagga in South Africa .

To RSVP and to request interviews, please contact Senior Media Officers Tommy Huma on 072 218 6197 / 012 429 3981 / humatm@unisa.ac.za OR Edgar Rathelele on 063 731 5456 / 012 429 3981 / ratheme@unisa.ac.za

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