



MEMORANDUM OF  
UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ISLAMIC  
REPUBLIC OF IRAN

ON

COOPERATION IN COMBATING  
ILLICIT TRAFFICKING IN  
NARCOTIC DRUGS,  
PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES  
AND PRECURSORS

## PREAMBLE

The Government of the Republic of South Africa and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran (hereinafter jointly referred to as the "Parties" and separately as a "Party");

CONSCIOUS of the mutual advantages of constructive cooperation for both Parties;

RECOGNIZING that the illicit trafficking in and abuse of drugs in all its forms pose a serious threat to the health, security and welfare of human beings, and adversely affect the economic, social, cultural and political foundations of societies;

REALIZING the gravity of the situation caused by the ever expanding scope of illicit drug production, distribution and smuggling worldwide;

GUIDED by the provisions of the international drug control conventions;

RECOGNIZING the importance of coordination and cooperation in combating illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors;

RESPECTING the sovereignty, territorial integrity and domestic law of the Parties,

HEREBY AGREE as follows:

## **PARAGRAPH 1**

### **OBJECTIVES OF COOPERATION**

The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding is cooperation in the field of combating the illicit production, trafficking in and abuse of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors (hereinafter referred to as "drugs"), as defined by the United Nations international drug control conventions.

## **PARAGRAPH 2**

### **AREAS OF COOPERATION**

The main areas of cooperation between the Parties are -

- (a) drug supply and demand reduction as well as the improvement of administrative methods;
- (b) the suppression of illicit drug production and trafficking, as well as close cooperation in the international arena;
- (c) the exchange of experiences and information on the methods of search and seizure of concealed drugs;
- (d) the exchange of experiences and information on the methods and modus operandi used by drug traffickers;

- (e) the exchange of information on networks and persons involved in, or suspected to be involved in, or arrested for illicit drug trafficking, as well as on new routes of illicit drug transportation;
- (f) the use of new technical instruments in training courses and the exchange of modern technologies to detect illicit drugs;
- (g) the provision of information on new types of drugs;
- (h) the exchange of experiences and information on effective educational programmes for the agencies, organizations and personnel involved in the anti-drug campaign;
- (i) the exchange of experiences and information on legislation, and administrative as well as judicial decisions in the field of combating illicit drug trafficking;
- (j) the exchange of experiences and information on effective preventive programmes in the treatment and rehabilitation of addicts;
- (k) the exchange of scientific publications, special bulletins, films and other educational material on the prevention of drug abuse in order to promote public awareness;
- (l) the exchange of information to assist in controlling and supervising the trade in precursors and essential chemicals to prevent the diversion thereof;

(m) other areas of common concern in the field of illicit drugs.

### **PARAGRAPH 3**

#### **CONFIDENTIALITY**

Recognizing the need for confidentiality, the competent authorities shall, subject to the domestic law in force in their respective countries -

- (a) refrain from communicating any information or request received in terms of this Memorandum of Understanding to any third party without the prior written consent of the other Party; and
- (b) adhere to the highest degree of confidentiality which either Party may determine.

### **PARAGRAPH 4**

#### **MEETINGS AND CONSULTATIONS**

In order to review the situation regarding illicit drug trafficking and progress made with the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding, representatives of the competent authorities shall, where necessary, have working meetings and consultations.

## PARAGRAPH 5

### RELATION TO OTHER INTERNATIONAL TREATIES

The provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding shall not affect the rights and obligations arising out of other international treaties of the Parties.

## PARAGRAPH 6

### COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

- (1) The competent authorities responsible for the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be -
  - (a) For the Government of the Republic of South Africa, the South African Police Service and the Department of Social Development within their respective areas of competency; and
  - (b) For the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Drug Control Headquarters.
- (2) Each Party shall appoint a contact person responsible for direct contact between the competent authorities and shall inform the other Party thereof through the diplomatic channel. The competent authorities shall act within their authority and subject to the international obligations and domestic law of the Parties.

## **PARAGRAPH 7**

### **SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES**

Any dispute arising out of the interpretation and implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be settled amicably through consultation or negotiation between the Parties.

## **PARAGRAPH 8**

### **FINAL PROVISIONS**

- (1) This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force upon signature.
- (2) This Memorandum of Understanding shall remain in force until terminated by either Party giving six months written notification in advance to the other Party through the diplomatic channel of its intention to terminate it.

Done at Pretoria on this 22nd day of July in this year 2003 in two originals in the Persian and English languages, both texts being equally authentic.

*N. C. Zuma*

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FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

*Khamenei*

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FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN