



BIOPROSPECTING MEDIA ROUND TABLE

25 February 2009

Public Understanding of Biotechnology Programme

PROF NCEBA GQALENI

Prof Gqaleni is Chairperson of the DST African Traditional Medicine Bioprospecting and Product Development Platform driven by the National Indigenous Knowledge Systems Office. He previously held the position of Deputy Dean of Nelson Mandela School of Medicine, University of Kwazulu Natal.

Prof Gqaleni obtained his PhD from the University of Strathclyde in the UK. He is now an NRF-rated and evaluated research scientist; a microbial/medical biochemist with research experience in environmental carcinogenesis/toxicology, indigenous knowledge systems, food security and biotechnology. He has nine years of teaching and independent research experience, 20 publications in peer-reviewed journals and books, 13 presentations in international and national conferences, 4 industrial reports, 4 government policy documents, and 6 guest lectures.

He is and has been a member of numerous committees and programmes including a founder member and Director of African Health Care Systems Research Programme (Traditional African Medicine Programme), a member of the Presidential Task Team on Traditional Medicine (2007-2008), a member of the WHO African Regional Office, Expert Committee of Traditional Medicines (2005-2008), a member of the Scientific Advisory team for SADC Health Ministers on Food/Nutrition supplements and traditional herbs used as immune boosters for people living with HIV and AIDS in SADC countries (2002-2003)



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