

No. R. 585

2 May 2003

HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT, 1974 (ACT NO. 56 OF 1974)**REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE PROFESSIONAL
BOARD FOR OPTOMETRY AND DISPENSING OPTICIANS**

The Minister of Health has, in terms of section 15 of the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 of 1974), on the recommendation of the Health Professions Council of South Africa, to make the regulations in the Schedule.

Interested persons are invited to submit any substantiated comments or representations on the proposed regulations to the Director- General of Health, Private Bag X828, Pretoria, 0001 (for the attention of the Director: Human Resource Development), within 6 weeks of the date of publication of this notice.

SCHEDULE**1. Definitions**

In these regulations "the Act" means the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 of 1974), and any expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act shall bear such meaning and, unless the context indicates otherwise -

"board" means the Professional Board for Optometry and Dispensing Opticians established, in terms of section 15 of the Act, under Government Notice No. R. 75 of 16 January 1998;

"previously disadvantaged individuals" means persons who were previously disadvantaged by unfair discrimination and who, in terms of section 9(2) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 (Act No. 108 of 1996), may be

protected and advanced to achieve equality and, for the purposes of these regulations, includes the following designated groups:

- (a) Men of African, Asian or coloured descent;
- (b) women, irrespective of descent; and
- (c) disabled persons, irrespective of descent;

“section” means a section of the Act.

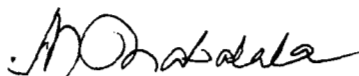
2. Constitution of the board

- (1) The board shall consist of the following 13 members who permanently reside in South Africa:
 - (a) Six optometrists, of whom at least three shall be previously disadvantaged individuals;
 - (b) two dispensing opticians, of whom at least one shall be a previously disadvantaged individual;
 - (c) one person representing the educational institutions accredited by the board where education and training for the professions referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b) are conducted;
 - (d) one person representing the health authorities, who shall be appointed by the Minister; and
 - (e) three community representatives, who shall be appointed by the Minister.
- (2) At least two of the eight practitioners referred to in subregulation (1)(a) and (b) shall be women.

- (3) The six optometrists referred to in subregulation (1)(a) shall be elected by persons with registered postal addresses in South Africa and whose names appear on the register of optometrists.
- (4) The two dispensing opticians referred to in subregulation (1)(b) shall be elected by persons with registered postal addresses in South Africa and whose names appear on the register of dispensing opticians.
- (5) The person representing the educational institutions referred to in subregulation (1)(c) shall be appointed by such institutions.

3. Repeal

The Regulations relating to the Constitution of a Professional Board for Optometry and Dispensing Opticians published under Government Notice No. R. 313 of 27 February 1998 are hereby repealed with effect from the date immediately preceding the date of the first meeting of the board constituted in terms of these regulations.



DR M E TSHABALALA-MSIMANG
MINISTER OF HEALTH