

AFFIDAVIT BY DR. MATTHIAS RATH

IN THE HIGH COURT OF SOUTH AFRICA (CAPE OF GOOD HOPE PROVINCIAL DIVISION)

I hereby affirm and say:

1. I am a medical doctor, researcher and head of the Dr. Rath Health Foundation Africa, ('the Foundation'), with its principal place of business at 15th floor, 34 Bree Street, Cape Town. The facts stated in this affidavit are true and correct within my personal knowledge and belief.
2. **This affidavit has become necessary because the efforts from certain interests to interfere with the ongoing court proceedings continue. Some of this public attacks affect my credibility, including statements in my (earlier) affidavit. They require a correction.**
3. **The *Business Day* issue of 18 May 2005 published a letter to the editor by Prof. Ben Turok, a member of Parliament from the District of Muizenberg, the community where the TAC headquarter is located. This letter was defamatory in the nature and the *Business Day* titled it 'Help to rid SA of Rath scourge' (Annexure 1*).**
4. **I leave it up to the Court to judge the motives of Mr. Turok to write such a letter in the middle of ongoing court proceedings. However, his false statements need to be corrected.**
5. **The facts are as follows:**
 - a. I met **Mr. Turok** personally on two occasions. The first meeting took place in his private home in Muizenberg together with Mr. Venter, a consulting attorney who assisted us to find some property for a research and education center for our Foundation. The second meeting took place at **Mr. Turok's** office in Parliament at which time a colleague of mine accompanied me.
 - b. In his letter to the *Business Day* **Mr. Turok** states that I came to see him because I wanted to "establish a factory in Muizenberg to manufacture pills." This statement is a lie.

The correspondence between with **Mr. Turok** unequivocally states the purpose of our meetings. In my Email dated 18 May 2004 I confirmed to **Mr. Turok** the nature of the discussed project as follows: "After the meeting with you I had asked Mr. Venter to follow up and convey to you our interest in realizing the research/education project of our Foundation in Muizenberg." (**Annexure 2***).

Thus, the discussed project was not a "factory to manufacture pills" but a "research/education" project. Moreover, the correspondence clearly states the non-profit nature of this project as part of the efforts of the Dr. Rath Foundation.

6. The statement by **Mr. Turok** is particularly surprising, since during the meetings he repeatedly emphasized his interest to attract educational institutions to the community of Muizenberg and saw the education project of our Foundation as fitting this vision. The core of the project was to provide knowledge about natural health particularly to poor communities in the context of our Foundation. This is precisely what we are now doing elsewhere.
7. **Mr. Turok** is aware of this correspondence and of the witnesses present during the conversations with him, who are ready to testify in support of this affidavit. Given these facts, **Mr. Turok's** statements apparently serve another purpose.
8. This purpose is reflected later in his letter where he quotes a study where ARV drugs allegedly increase survival rates of AIDS patients. With this quote, **Mr. Turok**, a professor of mathematic, is trying to prove our Foundation and the South African government wrong with the severe doubts about ARV drugs.
9. **Mr. Turok**, or anyone who advised him to quote this "study conducted by ... eminent HIV scientists", must answer the following questions:
 - a. As is obvious from the summary (abstract), this remarkable 'study' tried to validate WHO guidelines from the year 2003 – retrospectively – with patient data from the years 1991 to 2000. In other words this was not a controlled study, not even a planned

study, but an 'archive study' (**Annexure 3***).

- b. **Mr. Turok's** public statement that this study was 'conducted' is already misleading. The word 'conducted' in the context of a retrospective study means nothing else than the fact that paper files of patients were screened – in this case from more than a decade back.
- c. Moreover, none of the patients in this 'archive study' received a vitamin or micronutrient programme to enhance the immune system in a natural way. **Mr. Turok** must be asked why he quoted this 'study' and what he wanted to achieve by including it in his public defamation letter:

Does he want to discredit vitamins and micronutrients with a 'study' where vitamins were not even included?

Does he want to disprove the scientific facts about the defined role of micronutrients in enhancing the immune system documented in every textbook of biology and biochemistry?

Does he want to question my work as a scientist in the area of natural health?

Does he want to doubt the successful results of our pilot nutrient programme in AIDS patients in Khayelitsha, a real programme that received world wide attention – with the results of an 'archive study'?

Or does he want to discredit the South African government with respect to its questions on ARV drugs and its advocacy for natural health?

- d. In light of these facts, **Mr. Turok's** call at the end of his letter to "rid our country of the scourge of Rath" is open to public debate. What lies in the interest of 'our country,' or for that matter in the interest of millions of people in the developing world, may not be the same interests of Mr. Turok.

- 10. The ability of vitamins and other micronutrients to reverse the course of AIDS – as documented in our pilot nutrient programme in Khayelitsha – and the possibility for the natural**

control of the AIDS epidemic threaten a multi-billion dollar investment industry based on patented AIDS drugs. The stakeholders of this industry in medicine, the media – and in politics – in South Africa and abroad are trying to secure their interests at all costs.

- 11. If these stakeholders would be convinced that I am wrong and the breakthroughs in natural science I stand for could not be substantiated, they would stay silent and wait for the natural demise of this natural approach to the AIDS epidemic.**
- 12. The fact, however, that these interest groups and individuals are embarking on a public witch-hunt of unprecedented proportions against the work of our Foundation shows everyone that they are carried by other motives. These interest groups know that the Dr. Rath Foundation is the scientific leader in the natural control of AIDS and other diseases and they know that the website of our Foundation is one of the leading sources of science-based natural health information world-wide.**
- 13. Most importantly, these interest groups and individuals know that they may slow down their own demise and the giant losses of the pharmaceutical investment business based on patented AIDS drugs, if they obstruct our Foundation from continuing its work in nutrition and AIDS in South Africa by all means – including public defamation.**
- 14. In summary, Mr. Turok's letter may serve the interests of the TAC, an organization located in his voting district of Muizenberg, or interests behind the TAC, but it clearly does neither serve the scientific facts nor the truth.**

20 May 2005

Dr. Matthias Rath

*Annexures are documented on the Website of our Foundation at www.dr-rath-health-foundation.org.za