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PRESS STATEMENT**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****NACOC TO START LICENSING FOR MEDICINAL AND INDUSTRIAL CANNABIS CULTIVATION**

The Narcotics Control Commission (NACOC) wishes to inform the public that it will soon begin implementing the licensing regime for medicinal and industrial cannabis cultivation in Ghana.

This follows parliament's approval of the regulatory and cost framework to operationalise the licensing regime for controlled cultivation, processing, and use of cannabis with tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) content not exceeding 0.3 per cent for medicinal and industrial purposes.

NACOC wishes to inform the public that licenses will be granted only to qualified entities that meet stringent requirements, including:

1. Security protocols
2. Product traceability systems
3. Quality assurance standards
4. Full compliance with applicable laws and regulations

The Commission strongly cautions prospective applicants to:

1. Deal directly and exclusively with NACOC through the Cannabis Regulations Department (CRD)
2. Avoid engaging with any individuals, groups, or associations claiming to facilitate licensing
3. Follow only the officially approved licensing processes and guidelines

NACOC reiterates that recreational use of cannabis remains illegal in Ghana. The Commission will work closely with relevant Ministries, Departments, and Agencies, including the Ministry of Interior, Ghana Standards Authority, and the Food and Drugs Authority, to ensure effective implementation, monitoring, and enforcement of this framework.

We remain committed to safeguarding public health and safety while supporting lawful innovation and industrial development in Ghana.

Signed**Francis Opoku Amoah**

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