

Dear Sir/ Madam,

FDA ENFORCES ZERO PERCENT HYDROQUINONE IN COSMETIC PRODUCTS

The Food and Drugs Authority (FDA) wishes to remind the general public that, hydroquinone ceases to be part of ingredients permitted in cosmetic products on the Ghanaian market with immediate effect.

This is with reference to standard set by the Ghana Standards Authority (GSA) i.e. GS 227-2:2017(List of Substance not Permitted in Cosmetic Products) which requires that cosmetic products should be free of Hydroquinone

The FDA has already informed Importers, manufacturers, distributors retailers, etc. that cosmetic products containing hydroquinone are not to be sold on the Ghanaian market.

The FDA therefore expects the Ghanaian market to be free of cosmetics containing hydroquinone and therefore, anyone found selling such products will be sanctioned in accordance with the law.

Additionally, the general public is reminded that indiscriminate and extensive use of cosmetics containing hydroquinone can lead to health related issues including thinning of the skin, poor wound healing, development of stretch marks, excessive sweating, bad body odour, amongst others.

The general public is further encouraged to provide information on persons found selling these products or any activities that are likely to endanger public health and safety with respect to the FDA's mandate through any of the following numbers; **HOTLINES - 0299802932, 0299802933, TOLL FREE NUMBER - 0800151000 (free only on Airtel and Vodafone) SMS SHORTCODE - 4015**

You may also reach us through these additional numbers: 0244337235, 0244254315, 0244337245, and 0200426256.

The FDA is also assuring the general Public of its continuous resolve to protect public health and safety at all times.

Signed

Head of Communications and Public Education
For: Chief Executive Officer