



The National Prosecuting Authority of South Africa
Igunya Jikelele Labetshutshisi boMzantsi Afrika
Die Nasionale Vervolgingsgesag van Suid-Afrika

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SCORPIONS DESTROY ANOTHER LOAD OF DRUGS WORTH R800 MILLION

After the successful burning of Drugs worth R364 million this week in Cape Town, The Directorate of Special Operations (Scorpions) will today destroy another loot worth R800 million.

The Scorpions earlier this month seized 5 tons of a chemical substance used to manufacture illicit drugs.

During investigations in early May 2007, Scorpions investigators intercepted 5 tons of a chemical substance O-Toluidine which is used to manufacture Mandrax.

Experts in the chemistry field estimate that the chemical seized would have manufactured 20 million mandrax tablets with a street value of approximately R800 million

This is the second largest seizure since the Scorpions seized about 3 tons of Methaqualone at the Durban Harbour in July 2003 with a street value of R3billion

O-Toluidine is a substance monitored and controlled by the International Trade Administration Act and is a listed chemical in the executive summary of chemicals in the South African Police Service practical guide to precursor control in Southern Africa. This guide is in keeping with the United Nations Convention against the illicit trafficking in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic substances of 1998.

The investigation is ongoing. Drugs will be destroyed at 20 Keramiek Street, Olifantsfontein, Johannesburg later today.

The Scorpions are committed in its fight against Organised Crime, in particular the interception and investigation of Drug Syndicates.

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