



BUSBA/ Department of Health Statement based on meeting held on NHI Bill.

For Immediate Release
4 September 2019

The Minister of Health, Dr Zweli Mkhize, met with the leadership of Business Unity South Africa (BUSBA) on Wednesday 28 August 2019 afternoon to discuss a framework in which BUSBA can engage the Department of Health on pertinent issues relating to NHI.

The discussion began with a common understanding that the current health care system is inequitable and unsustainable. There was no dispute that Universal Health Coverage should be realized through active cooperation between the public and private healthcare sectors and therefore BUSBA wishes to express support for the NHI in principle.

However, BUSBA proposed a mechanism to engage with the department on an ongoing basis to resolve various matters of mutual interest.

Both BUSBA and Minister accepted the importance for the parliamentary process to be followed and be respected in engaging with the Bill and through the parliamentary hearings

Minister accepted the proposal by BUSBA that a Five-aside team be constituted representing BUSBA and Department of Health to find resolutions for the matters of mutual interest.

It was agreed that mechanisms be found to resolve these issues amicably through a structured framework of engagement.

“This is a positive departure from historically hostile public- private relations. As a sector we are already showing signs of maturity and cohesion, which is very encouraging” says Minister Mkhize

The BUSBA Acting CEO, Cas Coovadia said: “The meeting was very constructive and the agreement on a robust process of engagement on issues is very positive.”

-ENDS-



health

Department:
Health
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

REGISTRATION NUMBER: 2014/042417/08

PRESIDENT: Siphon M Pityana VICE PRESIDENT: Martin Kingston NEDLAC CONVENOR: Kaizer Moyane

DIRECTORS: Busi Mavuso, Cas Coovadia, Christopher Campbell, Deidre Penfold, Gwarega Mangozhe, Joe Mwase, Maurice Radebe, Roger Baxter, Stavros Nicolaou, Vusi Khumalo