

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND**

and

**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH
AFRICA**

on

**THE RECIPROCAL EXCHANGE OF HEALTHCARE
CONCEPTS AND PERSONNEL**

INTRODUCTION

The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (hereinafter referred to as “UK”) and the Government of the Republic of South Africa (hereinafter referred to as “South Africa”) and jointly referred to as the “Participants” and in the singular as a “Participant”);

DESIROUS to consolidate and strengthen the friendly ties and reciprocal understanding between the Participants;

CONSCIOUS of the desirability of promoting to the greatest possible extent the mutual knowledge, experience and understanding of their respective human and development needs in the field covered by this Memorandum of Understanding by means of friendly cooperation between them;

CONSIDERING the Participants wish to enhance their bilateral relations in respect of Public Health and Health Care Policy;

CONSIDERING the mutual interest of the Participants in exchange programmes for officials of each Participant, and that professionals selected to join the programme have an opportunity to enhance clinical/technical skills and explore best experiences;

HEREBY ACCEPT as follows:

ARTICLE 1

OBJECTIVE OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The Objective of this Memorandum of Understanding is to enhance clinical/technical skills and to explore best practice in health care delivery.

ARTICLE 2

SCOPE OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The Scope of this Memorandum of Understanding is as follows:

- (1) Giving cognisance to the existing commitment of the UK to ethical international workforce policies and practices as clearly outlined in their Department of Health’s Guide to International Recruitment 1999, and the UK Code of Practice for National Health Services (NHS) employers 2001, the revision of said Code in 2004, and the subsequent priority given to human resources for health, both regionally and globally, both Participants will formulate an agreed

plan whereby healthcare professionals can exchange information on education and practice;

(2) The Memorandum of Understanding will also enable clinical staff from the UK to work alongside healthcare professionals in the Republic of South Africa, with particular emphasis on the rural areas; and

(3) The Participants will exchange information, advice and expertise on-

- (a) Education, training and regulation of Healthcare professionals;
- (b) Public health and primary care;
- (c) Workforce planning and development, including the National Health Services and academic interface;
- (d) Strategic planning to develop, plan, monitor and evaluate policy for health service delivery;
- (e) Improving investment, management and revitalisation of public health infrastructure (including facilities) using different mechanisms;
- (f) Private finance initiatives and public-private partnerships aimed at improving the quality of care in the public health system

(4) The Participants will facilitate collaboration with relevant institutions in order to achieve the objectives of this MOU including:

- (a) Regulatory bodies of Healthcare Professionals (including specifically the Nursing and Midwifery Council);
- (b) Institutions of higher education and training;
- (c) National Institute for Clinical Excellence in Quality issues;
- (d) Health Protection Agency

ARTICLE 3

SPECIFIC PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

Activities described in this Memorandum of Understanding may be implemented by the Participants through the development of specific arrangements, programmes or projects between the appropriate agencies and offices of the Participants. Such arrangements, programmes or projects will specify, inter alia, the objectives, activities, organisation, financial arrangements and other details relating to specific undertakings of all participants involved.

The Participants will nominate officials to meet annually to review progress on implementation of the MOU, and agree on projects and programmes for the coming year.

These priorities will be detailed in an annexure.

ARTICLE 4

COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

The competent authorities responsible for the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding will be:

- (1) In the case of the UK, the Department of Health, represented in the Republic of South Africa by the High Commission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; and
- (2) In the case of South Africa, the National Department of Health.

ARTICLE 5

SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

Any disputes between the Participants, which may arise in the course of the implementation and interpretation of this Memorandum of Understanding, will be settled amicably through consultation or negotiation between the Participants.

ARTICLE 6

AMENDMENTS TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended by written mutual consent of the Participants after negotiation through diplomatic channels by way of an Exchange of Notes between the Participants.

ARTICLE 7

ENTRY INTO FORCE AND TERMINATION

- (1) This Memorandum of Understanding will come into effect on the date of the last signature thereon.
- (2) This Memorandum of Understanding will remain in operation on signature and will continue in operation for a period of five years until terminated by either Participant giving at least three months written notice to the other through the appropriate diplomatic channel.
- (3) If jointly decided, the Participants may extend the duration of this Memorandum of Understanding by written mutual consent.

(4) The termination of this Memorandum of Understanding will not affect the validity and duration of any ongoing arrangements, programmes and projects undertaken under this Memorandum of Understanding, until the completion of such programmes or activities.

The foregoing record represents the understandings reached between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of South Africa upon the matters referred therein.

Signed in duplicate in the English languages, both texts having equal validity.

DONE at on this day of 2008.

**For the Government of the United
Kingdom of Great Britain and
Northern Ireland**

Rt Hon Dawn Primarolo
Minister of State for Public Health

**For the Government of the Republic of
South Africa**

Hon Dr Manto Tshabalala-Msimang
Minister of Health