

**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 EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE  
OF HEALTHCARE CONCEPTS AND PERSONNEL**

## **PREAMBLE**

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 "Parties" and in the singular as a "Party");

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

**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 Parties wish to enhance their bilateral relations in respect of Public Health and Health Care Policy

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

**HEREBY AGREE** 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, both parties shall formulate an agreed plan whereby, South African healthcare personnel can spend mutually agreed period of time on education and practice in organisations providing National Health Services;
- (2) The Memorandum of Understanding will also enable clinical staff from England to work alongside healthcare personnel in the Republic of South Africa, with particular emphasis on the rural areas; and
- (3) The Parties shall exchange information, advice and expertise in-
  - (a) professional regulation issues;
  - (b) public health and primary care;
  - (c) workforce planning and development, including the National Health Services and academic interface;
  - (d) strategic planning;
  - (e) public-private partnerships, including private finance initiatives;
  - (f) revitalisation of hospitals, including governance (corporate and clinical) and re-engineering;
  - (g) twinning of hospitals to share best practices and strengthen management; and
  - (h) training in healthcare management.
- (4) The Parties shall collaborate with the following institutions:
  - (a) National Institute for Clinical Excellence in Quality issues; and
  - (b) the Health Protection Agency.

### **ARTICLE 3**

#### **SPECIFIC PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS**

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

### **ARTICLE 4**

#### **COMPETENT AUTHORITIES**

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

- (a) 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
- (b) in the case of South Africa, its national Department of Health.

### **ARTICLE 5**

#### **TRAINING**

The Parties shall facilitate mutual access to universities, colleges and schools of training for the health professionals during -

- (a) scientific studies;
- (b) specific training;
- (c) postgraduate training;
- (d) study visits.

## **ARTICLE 6**

### **SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES**

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

## **ARTICLE 7**

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended by mutual consent of the Parties through an Exchange of Notes between the Parties through the diplomatic channel.

## **ARTICLE 8**

### **ENTRY INTO FORCE AND TERMINATION**

- (1) This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force on the date of its signature thereof.
- (2) This Memorandum of Understanding shall remain in force for a period of five (5) years but may be terminated by either Party giving three months written notice in advance through the diplomatic channel of its intention to terminate it.
- (3) If deemed necessary, the Parties, by written mutual consent, may decide to extend the duration of this Memorandum of Understanding.
- (4) The termination of this Memorandum of Understanding shall 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.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the undersigned, being duly authorised thereto by their respective Governments, have signed and sealed this Memorandum of Understanding in duplicate in the English language, all texts being equally authentic.

DONE at ..... on this ..... day of ..... 2003.

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

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

**Rt Hon Mr John Hutton MP  
Minister of State for Health**

**Hon Dr Manto Tshabalala  
Msimang  
Minister of Health**