
PREAMBLE

RECOGNISING THAT –

In the spirit of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa and recognising the socio-economic injustices, imbalances and inequities of health services of the past;

Section 27(1) of the Constitution provides for the right of everyone of access to health services including reproductive health care, section 27(2) of the Constitution requires the State to take reasonable legislative and other measures, within its available resources to achieve the progressive realisation of each of these rights;

Section 27(3) of the Constitution provides that no one may be refused emergency medical treatment.

AND BEARING IN MIND THAT –

The State must, in compliance with section 7(2) of the Constitution, respect, protect, promote and fulfil the rights in the Bill of Rights which is the cornerstone of democracy in South Africa;

Reasonable legislative measures be adopted in terms of section 27(2) of the Constitution to implement a plan of action to establish a national health system, utilising available resources to meet the health care needs of the people of the Republic of South Africa.

AND IN ORDER TO –

Be united in a common mission to actively promote and improve the health system in South Africa;

Provide for co-operative management of health services, within national guidelines, norms and standards and in which each province, municipality and district will address questions of policy and delivery of services;

Establish a health system of decentralised management, governance, research, enquiry and advocacy which encourages participation by everyone;

Promote a spirit of co-operation and shared responsibility among public, non-governmental and private health professionals and providers and other relevant sectors within the context of national, provincial and district health plans.

BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED by the Parliament of the Republic of South Africa, as follows: