

CHAPTER FOUR: CONCLUSION

Much progress has been made in achieving the goals set out in the White Paper for the Transformation of the Health System in South Africa. In addition, significant progress has been made towards achieving some of the targets set out in the Health Sector Strategic Framework, 1999-2004. However, given the enormity of the task at hand much more remains to be done. In this strategic plan the Department commits itself to accelerating progress towards its vision and mission as set out in this strategic plan.

This plan clearly lays out the key objectives, indicators and targets that the Department will seek to achieve in the next three years. Whilst only the key objectives are listed in the tables above, much more will be done as will be reflected in the annual operational plans.

One of the key features of the budget of the national Department of Health is the large conditional grants for which it is accountable. Besides the activities listed in the tables above viz., releasing funds only after proper business plans or service level agreements have been presented and requiring regular reports, the Department will also undertake site visits to ensure that what is contained in the business plans and other agreements is being implemented..

While it is the provincial Departments of Health and municipalities that actually delivery most public health services, the national Department is committed to providing leadership and to supporting both provinces and municipalities to achieve nationally agreed upon targets.