

Our Ref: Your Ref:

29 April 2024

## Healthcare Service Providers

By email

Dear Sir/Madam,

## **REFORM OF THE NAMIBIAN HEALTHCARE LANDSCAPE**

- 1. You are receiving this correspondence in your capacity as a healthcare service provider in Namibia. This letter is aimed exclusively at healthcare service providers and not medical aid funds, their administrators, or regulators.
- 2. We act on behalf of the following Namibian healthcare service providers:
  - 2.1 Pharmaceutical Society of Namibia ("PSN");
  - 2.2 Medical Association of Namibia ("MAN");
  - 2.3 Namibia Acute Care Association "(NACA");
  - 2.4 Namibian Association of Private Hospitals ("NAPH"); and
  - 2.5 Namibia Radiology Management Group.
- 3. At a joint meeting of the above healthcare service providers, recent disturbing developments within the medical insurance industry was discussed and the need for an urgent meeting between all affected stakeholders within the industry, was identified as a priority.

- 4. We received instructions to assist the above stakeholders in establishing an appropriate forum through which all healthcare service providers in Namibia can voice their concerns in an orchestrated, well organised and professional manner. Our clients are of the opinion that this would ensure a just and equitable system of medical insurance for the general public, which will in turn ensure the continued existence of healthcare service providers in Namibia and their ability to render a quality service at an affordable price.
- 5. Our clients are well aware that they alone cannot profess to act for the entire industry and therefore each and every affected representative body within the industry should be given the opportunity to contribute to the establishment of a representative forum.
- 6. May we point out that, never before has the continued existence of healthcare service providers in Namibia been under threat to the current extent and therefore it would be in the interest of the stakeholders represented by you to participate (at least initially) in ensuring credible representation of your profession on the proposed forum.
- 7. We therefore invite you to an exploratory meeting to be held at the venue, date and time indicated below and also attach a draft agenda:
  - **Date:** 20 May 2024

**Time:** 18h00

- Venue: Peter Nyarango Auditorium, UNAM School of Medicine, Hage Geingob Campus, Windhoek
- 8. Other than the establishment of a representative forum for the entire industry, certain immediate and burning issues will be addressed at the exploratory meeting in order to try and reach general consensus on how to best promote the interests of the industry. In this regard we attach hereto a letter recently directed at the Registrar of Medical Aid Funds and to which we have not received a reply. We invite you to consider the contents as well as the attachment to the letter which contain important information. We specifically refer you to paragraph 27 of that letter which contains preliminary thoughts on how healthcare service providers could effectively



tackle the current impasse in the medical insurance industry. We must however point out that we have since realised that we cannot rely on the regulators to assist us in this process and the implications of this will be discussed in more detail at the exploratory meeting.

- 9. Simultaneously with distribution of this letter and the annexes by e-mail, we shall also send you an electronic invitation on which you will find a "pin" indicating the exact location of the meeting, which you are welcome to distribute to those that you represent. We would appreciate your RSVP to our electronic invitation in order for us to gauge the interest shown by addressees to ensure that the facilities are competent for the purpose.
- 10. Should you have any enquiries regarding this letter and the annexes please feel free to contact us by e-mail (only) at: <a href="mailto:nathalia@ellisandpartners.com">nathalia@ellisandpartners.com</a>

Yours faithfully,

RARTNERS ELLIS PER: M ELLIS



## NAMIBIA HEALTCARE SERVICE PROVIDERS FORUM ("NHSPF")

INAUGURAL MEETING

## DRAFT AGENDA

- 1. Welcome
- 2. Attendance register
- 3. Introductions
- 4. Settling agenda
- 5. Defining the Landscape
- 6. Proposal for a Forum
- 7. Provided the establishment of a forum is agreed to, then electing representatives for the respective disciplines:
  - 7.1. Specialists (1 representative per grouping):
    - 7.1.1. Cardiologists/Cardio Thorax/Internists/Neurologists/Pulmonologists/Radiologists/ Psychiatrists;
    - 7.1.2. Gynaecologists/Paediatricians/Anaesthetists/ ENT Specialists /Otolaryngology;
    - 7.1.3. Surgeons/ Orthopaedic Surgeons/Maxillo-Facial &Oral Surgeon/ Orthodontists/ Periodontists/Gastroenterologist/Plastic Surgeons;
    - 7.1.4. Ophthalmologists/Dermatologists/Oncologists/Pathologists/Urologists.
  - 7.2. Private Hospitals: 2 representatives
  - 7.3. General Practitioners: 2 representatives
  - 7.4. Dentists: 1 representative
  - 7.5. Pharmacists: 1 representative
  - 7.6. Physiotherapists/Bio kineticists/Chiropractors: 1 representative
  - 7.7. Occupational Therapists/Play Therapists/Speech Therapists/Sleep Therapists/Optometrists/ Nurses/Midwives: 1 representative

(It is proposed that any discipline not indicated above, shall be allocated to one of the above groups in order to restrict the total number of forum members to 12)

- 8. Questions
- 9. Closing

(The first meeting of the forum members (if elected) shall follow immediately after the exploratory meeting)

