

Dr Olive Shisana, Hon. Professor
President's Special Advisor on Social Policy
Presidency
Union Buildings,
Government Avenue,
Pretoria,
0002

10 July 2019

Dear Dr Shisana

BUSA SUBMISSION ON THE PRESIDENTIAL HEALTH COMPACT PROCESS

BUSA appreciates the opportunity provided to give further comments on the Presidential Health Summit Compact.

About Business Unity South Africa

Business Unity South African (BUSA) is a confederation of business organisations including chambers of commerce and industry, professional associations, corporate associations and unisectoral organisations.

BUSA commitment to partnerships with Government to address the current challenges of the Health Sector

BUSA has participated in the Presidential Health Summit Steering Committee since its establishment in 2018 and has, through consultation with its members, responded to the calls for input and comment into the various documents. Throughout this process BUSA has reiterated its commitment to partnerships with Government and other stakeholders to address the challenges currently facing the healthcare sector.

Although we have not received a final version of the document for signature, which we eagerly await, we have obtained a mandate from our members to support signature of the document, based on the last version of the document for signature that we commented on 4 weeks ago.

Although we are disappointed that the main document once again contains negative comments about the private sector, which undermines the spirit of partnership that we are seeking to achieve with this initiative, we are willing to sign the document to express our commitment to proceeding to implementation in a partnership with Government and other stakeholders. However, successful partnerships require the acceptance of the bona fides of each stakeholder and trust between stakeholders for efficient and effective implementation of agreed deliverables. The decision taken by BUSA to sign the compact, despite reservations about the sentiments expressed about the private sector in the document, demonstrates our commitment to a partnership. We thus appeal

to the Presidency, and expect, that there will be substantive engagement and meeting of minds between stakeholders in the implementation phase.

As indicated in the accompanying document, please remove the list of BUSA's individual member organisations, as listed in the most recent version of the Compact (version 9) circulated to the Health Steering Committee on 08 July 2019. Kindly replace it with the citation of Business Unity South Africa (BUSA) as the apex business organisation, which has the mandate to sign.

We also wish to place on record our understanding that this Compact has been developed to address a range of current challenges in the Health Sector and will not be used to compromise the future extensive legislative and policy process that will be followed through normal policy channels to achieve universal health coverage.

Kind regards



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