



**REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA**

**STATEMENT**

**BY**

**HON. DR. RICHARD NCHABI KAMWI, MP**

**MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES**

**DURING THE**

**STRATEGIC PLANNING STAKEHOLDERS**

**CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP**

**AT**

**SAFARI HOTEL**

**29 OCTOBER 2008**

**P**rogram Director, Dr. Forster

**T**he Permanent Secretary, Mr. Kahuure

**T**he Under Secretary, Mr. Ndaitwa

**N**ational and Regional Directors

**O**ur valuable Stakeholders and Partners

**O**fficials from the OPM

**O**fficials from the MoHSS and other Ministries

**F**acilitators of this workshop

**M**embers of the Media

**L**adies and gentlemen

**A**ll protocols observed

**I**t is with great pleasure for me to be with you today, to witness yet another milestone in the process of the Strategic Plan. Three

months ago, to be specific on the 7<sup>th</sup> July 2008, I officially opened the first workshop and today I am seeing its final results. This is what I call commitment. Your hard work and commitment Comrade PS and your management staff is encouraging and should be applauded.

**P**rogram Director,

**L**adies and gentlemen

**I**t's no secret that the past years have been difficult for the Ministry of Health and Social Services (MoHSS). During that difficult time, we made headlines for all the wrong reasons. I should however, confess that although some of these media reports were true, you, our partners and stakeholders remained courageous and supportive through out this difficult times. It helps to know that we have friends like you and it is for this reason that we have decided to share our intentions of taking the health and social services sectors to greater height.

**I**n line with our Goal of “Health for All Namibians by the year 2000 and beyond” the MoHSS have formulated a draft strategic plan, which will be our road map for the coming five (5) years.

**T**he draft strategic plan before you, have been informed through the recent Health and Social Services System Review, which most of you participated in. This document does not only give some indications on where we want to go, but what we expect from you and what you expect from us in order to arrive where we want to be in five years.

**W**hile translating our plan into action, we need to be mindful of other significant strategic planning documents such as Vision 2030, NDP3, Medium Term Expenditure Framework and Global initiatives such as the Millennium Development Goals. Therefore, this strategic plan should be aligned and responsive to the strategic

planning documents so as to build synergy that will result in greater and excellent results. Hence, your inputs become imperative and it's for this reason that I encourage you to be sincere when scrutinising this draft strategic plan.

**L**adies and gentlemen

**I** am glad that the Office of the Prime Minister has embraced the Balanced Scorecard System that was formally only applied in the private sector. This is a move in the right direction, as all will be evaluated and that poor and non performers will be exposed. It's time that we in the public sector begin doing things in a businesslike manner. Off - course unlike in the private sector our motive will not be profit driven per se but performance driven, resulting in efficient service delivery which is one of the principles of the public service charter. Ours will further be driven by clientele satisfaction levels.

**T**he finalisation of this strategic plan will enable the MoHSS to put up management plans for each Directorate/Institutions so as to ensure accountability and responsibility of the respective areas of implementation. Holding individual directorates/institution responsible and accountable will help us to achieve the objectives in the overall strategic plan.

**P**rogram Director,

**L**adies and gentlemen,

**I**t's my submission that the MoHSS needs to use the strategic plan to address the most pressing challenges facing the Health and social services sector.

**I**n light of the foregoing, it therefore becomes imperative for us all to double our efforts toward the achievement of health for all. We need to assist each other if the notion of "Health for All" will ever be

realised; after all, health is a responsibility of everyone and not just the MoHSS.

**T**he above statement makes it explicitly clear that we are all responsible and accountable to the Namibian people, hence let us all re - dedicate ourselves to work tirelessly for the common good of our country. I therefore commit my self and indeed the entire MoHSS to this process and assure you of our willingness to listen to your valuable advice and input to our draft strategic plan.

**P**rogram Director,

**L**adies and Gentleman,

**M**y sincere appreciation goes to the Permanent Secretary and his team for having worked tirelessly till this day to come up with this draft document (strategic plan). In the same vein, let me also recognise our Development Partners that played a meaningful role in

the Health and Social Services System Review (HSSSR). The HSSSR provided us with scientific evidence of what has been going wrong for the past decade and the Strategic Plan will guide us on how we can move forward. The review was to a larger extent made possible through the financial and technical support of UNICEF, WHO, USAID, UNFPA, ITECH and SYNERGOS.

**L**astly I would like to acknowledge the Office of the Prime Minister for providing the guidance and the consultant team of Spergebiet in the formulation of our strategic plan.

**H**aving alluded to the Ministry of Health and Social Services' strategic Plan, I am equally happy to inform you that today Namibia will also launch the 2008 World Health Report.

**T**he World Health Report 2008 emphasises the World Health Organisation's commitment and attention towards Primary Health

Care an approach which aims at the provision of health care in an equitable, inclusive and fair manner.

**O**ur own health system is based on primary health care and its principles, Namibia is therefore committed to take this approach forward now more than ever as per the theme of this year's report.

**P**rogram Director,

**W**orld Health Organisation Country Representative in  
Namibia, Dr Magda Robalo

**L**adies and gentlemen,

**W**ith this few words, I hereby officially launch the World Health Report of the year 2008 and declare the stakeholder conference on the Strategic Plan officially opened.

I thank you

