

DECLARATION OF INTENT BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF FLANDERS

ON

COOPERATION IN THE HEALTH SECTOR

PREAMBLE

The Government of the Republic of South Africa

and

The Government of Flanders (hereinafter referred to as “the Parties”):

CONSIDERING the close, friendly and mutually beneficial relations existing between the Parties;

CONSIDERING the Declaration of intent on between the Government of the Republic of South Africa and the Government of Flanders signed on 4 November 1994, the Declaration of Intent for Collaboration in the Field of Education signed on 5 May 1995 and the Declaration of Intent between the Minister of the Government, of Flanders for Culture and Brussels Affairs and the Minister of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology of South Africa of 7 March 1995;

CONSIDERING the long standing cooperation between the Parties in training human resources for health and the successful implementation of development projects for the rehabilitation of the disabled in South Africa in 1995; anti

CONSIDERING the process of health sector reform in South Africa, the aim of which is to provide universal and equitable access to primary health care services and therefore wishing to extend the development cooperation in the field of health;

HAVE DECLARED as follows:

ARTICLE I

The Parties recognise -

- (a) that improvements in health are a pre-requisite for overall human development and that strengthening health systems through the application of the principles

of primary health care will lead to improvements in equity and to better health;

- (b) that technology can help to compensate for functional limitation, facilitate independent living and enable the disabled to realise their full potential and believe that true reconstruction and development involves addressing the developmental needs of disabled people.

ARTICLE 2

Flanders shall support the process of health sector reform in the Republic of South Africa through a health sector development programme which shall have the following objectives:

- (a) To support the creation of the national health system for universal primary health care;
- (b) to cooperate in developing human resources for health; and
- (c) to assist with the care, rehabilitation and integration of disabled people.

ARTICLE 3

The Administration of Foreign Affairs of the Ministry of Flanders shall be responsible for the development finance from Flanders which in the first instance shall -

- (a) provide financial support for the provision and maintenance of assistive devices; and
- (b)** assist the South African Department of Health to develop a community based rehabilitation strategy for disabled people.

ARTICLE 4

- (1) The Parties shall endeavour to encourage institutions for post-graduate education in the health sciences to continue mutually beneficial cooperation including the training of undergraduate and post-graduate medical students and exchange of specialists, lecturers and health scientists and shall explore ways to provide support for this process.
- (2) The Parties shall explore other avenues of cooperation which could help achieve the objectives of health sector reform in South Africa.

ARTICLE 5

The Parties shall endeavour to consult regularly on progress made in achieving the aims set out in this Declaration of Intent.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned being duly authorised thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Declaration of Intent in duplicate in Dutch and English, each language having equal value in the interpretation hereof.

DONE AT on this day
of 1996.

**FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC
OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF FLANDERS**

**Dr NC Dlamini Zuma
Minister of Health**

**Mr Luc Van den Brande
Minister-President**