



PRESS RELEASE

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Press release 9 of 2014: CMS in good hands whilst investigation continues



“The Council is in safe hands,” announced Prof Yusuf Veriava, Chairperson of the Council for Medical Schemes (CMS), today. “Whilst the investigation into allegations of corruption against the Chief Executive and Registrar, Dr Monwabisi Gantsho, is continuing, we would like to assure all stakeholders that it is business as usual.”

“We at CMS are committed to ensuring a healthy medical scheme industry where medical schemes and other regulated entities are properly governed, are responsive to the environment, and its beneficiaries are informed and protected,” added Dr Elsabé Conradie, spokesperson of CMS.

Dr Gantsho was placed on suspension by the Minister of Health, Dr Aaron Motsoaledi following allegations by Mr Themba Langa, former curator of Medshield Medical Scheme which were widely publicised in the media. “At this stage it is not clear when the investigation will be completed, however, in seeking the truth we must allow investigators time so that they leave no stone unturned,” said Conradie.

Prof Veriava further expressed his utmost confidence in the current Acting Chief Executive and Registrar, Mr Daniel Lehutjo, supported by CMS staff. Mr Lehutjo has been with CMS since 2002 when he joined as a Finance Manager, working up the ranks to the position of Senior Manager: Finance and eventually Chief Financial Officer.

Chairperson: Prof. Y Veriava Acting Chief Executive & Registrar: Mr D Lehutjo
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Under his leadership, CMS has attained 12 unqualified audits. With a competence certificate from the University of the Witwatersrand in Corporate Governance, an MBA, BCom and Marketing Management degrees, Mr Lehutjo has been on the forefront of developing robust internal policies to promote efficient and economical financial management at the CMS. His prior work experience includes being a Finance Manager for the Education Labour Relations Council, Lecturer for the Department of Accounting and earlier in his career; working as a teacher and a broker.

"Although Mr Lehutjo might not be well-recognised in the medical scheme industry, he is a fair and highly respected leader amongst the CMS staff," concluded Conradie.

The Council for Medical Schemes is a statutory body established by the Medical Schemes Act (131 of 1998) to provide regulatory supervision of private health financing through medical schemes and is committed to good governance.

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**Photographs available on request.*

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