



LIMPOPO
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

HEALTHY NEWS

29 July 2011

Electronic Newsletter of the
Department of Health

Edition no 2



Dept of Health HOD, Ms Daisy Mafubelu

Meet the new Head of Department, Ms Daisy Mafubelu

Daisy Mafubelu, the HOD of the Department of Health is a former Assistant Director General of the World Health Organization, the first nurse in history to occupy this high level position within this United Nations agency. She began her career in public health in 1981 as a nurse and midwife. Her experience as a diplomat complements her substantial public health, management and organizational development experience nationally

and internationally.

She has 13 years of hands-on experience in a hospital and community setting; including 6 years as a lecturer. She joined the management ranks of the South African health service, where she played a significant role in the transformation and management of public health services.

As Assistant Director General of the world health organization, she was responsible for providing leadership of the following departments within the family and community health cluster: child and adolescent health; reproductive health and research; immunization, biological and vaccines; making pregnancy safer; gender, women and health; as well as ageing and then life course.

Prior to her appointment as Assistant Director General of WHO, Daisy was a diplomat with the rank of minister at the permanent Mission of South Africa in Geneva. As South Africa's health representative, she dealt with and negotiated health-related issues in the international organizations in Geneva, such as the WHO, UNAIDS, the Global Fund, Human Rights Council, WTO and ILO. She negotiated on behalf of South Africa in a number of important international health issues, notably the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control and the international health regulations.

In her capacity as coordinator of the African Group on health matters in Geneva, she also represented and negotiated on behalf of the African Region, which enabled the African region to articulate common positions on matters of Regional interest. Her achievements during this period include increased cohesion of the African Region. As one of the five-Vice Chairpersons, she represented the African Region on the Bureau of the conference of the parties of the framework convention on Tobacco Control.

Daisy is a visionary, strategic thinker with outstanding managerial, leadership, analytical, negotiation, communication and research skills as well as ability to work with people from diverse social, cultural and professional backgrounds. She is driven in her work by a strong commitment to making a contribution to address national and global public health challenges. She has travelled extensively internationally on global public health issues. She was named Oliver Tambo fellow in Public Health leadership in 1997.

Areas of Experience

Maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health, sexual and reproductive health; gender equality and empowerment of women; health systems, policy and strategy formulation; evaluation of programs; high level facilitation and coordination; organizational development including change management; human resources management; organized labour negotiations; nursing education and practice

Ms Mafubelu held several senior management positions within the public health sector, including Director of HR, Chief Director of Corporate Services and Deputy Durector General.

Education

University of South Africa, LLB, current studies

Stellenbosch University

Bachelor of Business Management and Administration with Honours, and completed course work towards an MBA degree, 1999-2001

University of Cape Town, postgraduate Diploma in Health Managemnt, 1997-1998

Transvaal School of Public Health, Senior health Management Course, 1995

University of South Africa, Honours bachelor of Arts in Nursing Science, 1988-1989

University of South Africa, Bachelor of Arts in Nursing Science, 1983-1986

Tintswalo Nursing School, Diploma in Nursing and Midwifery, 1977-1981

Orhovelani High School, Senior Certificate (std X)

BY NTHELE MOTSEPE (EDITOR IN CHIEF)

Eureka!

This exclamation was made by Archimedes -an ancient Greek scholar -upon discovering how to measure the volume of an irregular solid and thereby determine the purity of a gold object. That was many moons ago.

Fast forward to July 2011 one found oneself howling: Eureka! ...Eureka!...

Only this time around the euphoria was not upon the discovery of the purity of gold, but rather upon discovery of something as precious: The joy of putting to bed the department's first ever electronic newsletter (Healthy News) and watching it stand and walk. Ecstatic ...! Blissful ...! Joyful ...!

Communications Unit will use Healthy News as a vehicle of delivering the most newsworthy, topical and entertaining issues and dish them out to you valuable staff member in a manner that is most captivating, entertaining while educational in the same.

Healthy News will pop-up in your inboxes every Friday.

While we welcome contributions from senior managers, heads of branches and programs, GMs and SGMs, we need to be blunt about the fact that the editorial integrity remains the prerogative of the editorial team.

This means that, just like in the newsrooms, the editorial team will reserve the right to edit and panel-beat copy such that it conforms to journalistic standards of writing articles in order to deliver a fine read as opposed to goring the poor and innocent reader to death with information overload.

At this point I even am seduced to share with you an incident in the summer of 2002 back at The Citizen where one cut his teeth in journalism.

I had submitted my first story and I can tell you that my entrails dangled between paradise and fear as I held my breath, anxiously waiting to live-up a dream of witnessing my first ever article making it into the national newspaper the following morning.

To my shudder, the then editor stood at the one end of the newsroom with a printout of my article in his hand and screamed: "Mr Nthele Motsepe, The only thing correct about this whole article is your by-line (name)" – sending the whole newsroom into a rumble of laughter, much to my own vexation. I had to re-write the article and took to bed with a heavy heart.

But the next day - when the last star went beneath and the sun broke through the grey morning - it was me who stood outside BP filling station in Mamelodi Gardens, grinning from cheek to cheek with a newspaper running with my article.

The moral of this story is that once you have submitted articles to Healthy News, you will not be able to wait for Friday just to have colleagues reading your wisdom.

It just feels good.

Produced by Corporate and Internal Communications

Editor In Chief; Nthele
Motsepe

Editor: Phaladi Seakgwe