



Full steam ahead

## Description

**As we reflect on the past quarter and look towards the future, I am excited to share our collective journey so far and the milestones we have achieved together at AfroCentric and share the prevailing events within our healthcare landscape.**

The annual AfroCentric Health Leadership Conference 2025 took place this February, bringing together the Group's leaders to collaborate on how we will drive meaningful change and growth within our company, in line with our refreshed strategy. I had the privilege of addressing the conference and outlined our imperatives for 2025, in successfully executing Vision 2030. I know that most of the leaders have commenced with engaging you to unpack our respective objectives to ensure that we are all in unison. You can catch up on some of the content of the Leadership Conference in our special feature in this issue.

A personal highlight of the conference was the Ignite Employee Recognition Awards ceremony. It was a truly inspiring evening where we celebrated the brilliant contributions of our team members who embody our vision and values. You can read more about this special event and the deserving recipients in the article Igniting our Passion. Congratulations, once again, to all the deserving winners.

## Staying the course

We recently released our financial performance for the six months ending 31 December 2024, highlighting key challenges and strategic advancements amid evolving industry dynamics.

I'm proud to say we've made great strides in transitioning our business model, driven by strategic appointments, new initiatives and a sharp focus on execution. In advancing our focus on clinical innovation we have made progress in establishing a dedicated Value-Based Care Orthopaedics Unit and will soon initiate two pilot projects.

Some of the proud milestones we have achieved include the launch of the Fedhealth and Sanlam product offering as well as first iteration of new a Health Rewards platform.

On the national front, the Minister of Finance delivered the annual Budget Speech on 12 March 2025, outlining the government's spending priorities. The budget, among other priorities, aims to drive sustainable development, improve healthcare access and strengthen social security for millions of South Africans. Health spending is set to grow from R277.2 billion in 2024/25 to R328.9 billion in 2027/28, ensuring equitable access to public health services, including free primary healthcare. An additional R28.9 billion has been allocated to sustain approximately 9,300 healthcare workers in hospitals and clinics across the country.

Meanwhile, we continue to monitor pivotal developments, including the Board of Healthcare Funders' (BHF) legal challenge regarding the constitutionality of the NHI Act before the High Court. As you know, the outcomes of this case deeply impact our business. We remain hopeful that through these processes – as well as continued engagement – a workable solution will prevail, one that includes a meaningful role for the private sector.

To every one of you driving Vision 2030, thank you. The road ahead is demanding, but together, we're not just navigating it — we're defining it. Let's keep the focus and execute well.

Until next time,

**Gerald**

**Category**

1. Our CEO

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