



## Keeping momentum and looking ahead

### Description

**I hope this message finds you all in good health and high spirits as we reach the midpoint of the year, concluding the second quarter. It is a moment for us to reflect on our achievements thus far and the exciting prospects that lie ahead.**

Parliament has adopted the National Health Insurance (NHI) Bill. The Bill has been passed, but it is not yet law. While sharp criticism has been flung from all directions, we remain optimistic that the National Council of Provinces will consider some of the unresolved concerns about the Bill's impact on medical schemes. The key to unlocking the full potential of NHI lies in public-private collaboration. Meanwhile, there is no need to panic – we expect medical aid as we know it to continue for the foreseeable future.

Another crucial point on the national agenda, and one of the ongoing challenges we face as a nation, is the energy crisis. I understand the disruption that power outages can cause to our work. We can only hope for a resolution to this crisis soon as the government collaborates with stakeholders to explore solutions. While the power cuts have eased over the past few weeks, remember that the office always provides a comfortable, uninterrupted working solution. I am aware that some areas may be without air-conditioning during loadshedding, but we are making the necessary changes to solve this problem. To assist you in tackling loadshedding challenges, you can find helpful tips in the Lifestyle section of this issue of AfroCentric in Perspective.

I also want to take a moment to share insights from the recent BHF Conference – a gathering that has reinvigorated our passion for making a difference to the healthcare sector. The conference theme, “Convergence to a person-centric health ecosystem – leaving no health citizen behind”, underscored the significance of collective efforts and shared values in our journey towards creating a healthcare system that truly prioritises people. Given recent developments, there is no better time than now to collaborate in building a comprehensive, inclusive healthcare system.

As we reflect on the valuable insights gained from the conference, it becomes evident that the vital conversations we have been having as an organisation internally and with our external stakeholders have been validated and reinforced. Read more about the BHF in the Our Business section.

Furthermore, I am pleased to revisit a moment during this quarter when we welcomed the successful conclusion of the transaction through which Sanlam acquired a majority shareholding in AfroCentric. I am confident that the combined synergies and expertise of the two businesses will positively reflect what has always been our main objective as an organisation: creating access to quality and affordable healthcare. Our dedication to transforming healthcare remains steadfast and this development has only further fuelled our determination.

As we move deeper into the winter season, it becomes even more crucial for us to prioritise our health and wellbeing. The colder months often bring with them various illnesses, and it is essential that we take the necessary precautions to stay healthy. Please remember to get sufficient rest, maintain a balanced diet and stay active.

For the second half of the year, let's remain focused on our goals and objectives. Our shared vision and collective efforts must continue to drive us forward. Let us remain mindful that our endeavours go far beyond the confines of business – the work we do every day and every strategic move we make enable us to make a lasting impact on the lives of individuals and the healthcare industry.

Healthier Together,

**Ahmed**

**Category**

1. CEO note