



A fond farewell

Description

As we approach October, my final month as Group CEO of AfroCentric, I am honoured to address you through this platform one last time. It has been a privilege to provide you with industry and business updates, celebrating our Group's achievements and nurturing a unified AfroCentric team while diligently tracking our performance against set targets to maintain our competitive edge. Before I bid farewell, I wish to share some insights for the road ahead

One of the key conversation drivers on the national health agenda for a long time to come will continue to be NHI. In my previous message, I discussed the National Health Insurance (NHI) Bill's passage through Parliament. Our industry continues its ongoing dialogue with the government to establish a workable framework and implementation plan. Notably, the progress of the s33 Amendment appears promising, as it aims to enable medical schemes to play a meaningful role in South Africa's healthcare sector.

I encourage you to explore the article in this issue, which elaborates on the significance of universal healthcare for a more equitable future in South Africa.

On the subject of equity, at the heart of our organisation's mission lies community upliftment endeavours. These not only speak to our strategic business objectives but inject a lifeforce to our stakeholders. I therefore invite you to delve into the article in the Our Business section, where we highlight our collaboration with SABCOHA and the DeBeers Group, a partnership that has significantly improved the quality of life of our community stakeholders. Together, we extended vital health screenings to 25 000 community members and mineworkers from the Venetia Mine, as well as the Capricorn and Vhembe districts in Limpopo. The project began in January 2023 and ran until 8 September, concluding with a successful showcase event to the Minister of Health, the Honourable Joseph Phaahla, at the Musina Showgrounds. Sadly, while compiling this magazine, we received news of a tragic accident that claimed the lives of 20 Venetia mineworkers. AfroCentric extends deepest condolences to the victims' families and colleagues.

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Our empowerment efforts as an organisation also extend to our internal stakeholders. We thrive on diversity, from celebrating our rich South African heritage to empowering the remarkable women integral to the AfroCentric Group. We have numerous accomplishments to celebrate, all of which align perfectly with the essence of our magazine's new name, AfroScenes.

With diversification comes one constant and that, colleagues, is change. We have seen significant changes over time, which was evidenced in our recently released annual results for the fiscal year ending June 2023. We noted a decline in earnings due to various factors. Nevertheless, the Group achieved significant milestones during this period, including:

- Pharmacy Direct retaining three provinces from the CCMDT tender and securing two additional provinces (Gauteng and North-West).
- Scriptpharm being awarded the Polmed contract for medicine management, effective for four years.
- AfroCentric Health (RF) Proprietary Limited, our Group's primary operating subsidiary, maintaining its Level 1 B-BBEE rating.

With this, we look forward to the future with confidence and optimism for brighter days ahead.

I wish Gerald all the very best as he takes the reins as Group CEO on 1 November 2023. With your unwavering support, I am confident he will navigate the challenges and steer the ship in the right direction.

Lastly, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for the incredible journey we have embarked on as an organisation over the past several years. Our achievements were only made possible through your firm dedication and support. Please continue to give your best and I eagerly anticipate hearing about your future successes, both as individuals and as part of a thriving organisation.

Healthier together,

Ahmed

Category

1. CEO note