

No. 49538

**South Africa
and
Guinea-Bissau**

Agreement between the Government of the Republic of South Africa and the Government of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau on health matters. Bissau, 30 August 2011

Entry into force: *30 August 2011 by signature, in accordance with article 9*

Authentic texts: *English and Portuguese*

Registration with the Secretariat of the United Nations: *South Africa, 23 April 2012*

**Afrique du Sud
et
Guinée-Bissau**

Accord entre le Gouvernement de la République sud-africaine et le Gouvernement de la République de Guinée-Bissau dans le domaine de la santé. Bissau, 30 août 2011

Entrée en vigueur : *30 août 2011 par signature, conformément à l'article 9*

Textes authentiques : *anglais et portugais*

Enregistrement auprès du Secrétariat des Nations Unies : *Afrique du Sud, 23 avril 2012*

[ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS]

AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE REPUBLIC OF GUINEA BISSAU

ON

HEALTH MATTERS

PREAMBLE

The Government of the Republic of South Africa and the Government of the Republic of Guinea Bissau, (hereinafter jointly referred to as the “Parties” and separately as a “Party”);

WILLING to establish and develop a diversified relationship in the health field, in the spirit of solidarity and friendship between the Parties;

AWARE of the importance of health development for the future of both Parties;

ACKNOWLEDGING the mutual advantages that may result from this Agreement;

HEREBY AGREE as follows:

ARTICLE 1
DEFINITIONS

In this Agreement, unless the context otherwise indicates –

“health professional” means a person who is registered as such with a statutory body and who has significant skill, experience or knowledge in a particular health field or activity;

“health technology” includes devices, drugs, medical and surgical procedures and the knowledge associated with these, in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of disease, as well as in rehabilitation, including the organizational and supportive systems within which health care is provided;

“telehealth” means the practice of medical care using audio, visual and data communication and this includes medical care delivery, diagnosis and treatment, as well as education and the transfer of medical data;

“telemedicine” means the use of information and telecommunication technologies to provide medical information and services at a distance;

“twinning” means the pairing of public institutions, including hospitals with similar functions and areas of speciality in the two countries for purposes of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 2

SCOPE OF THE AGREEMENT

The Parties shall promote, develop and increase co-operation in the field of public health within their respective jurisdictions by exploring the possibilities for co-operation on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, in accordance with the domestic law in force in their respective territories.

ARTICLE 3

COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

The Competent Authorities responsible for the implementation of this Agreement shall be –

- (a) in the case of the Republic of South Africa, the Department of Health or otherwise represented by the Embassy of the Republic of South Africa in the Republic of Guinea Bissau; and
- (b) in the case of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, the Ministry of Public Health or otherwise represented by the Embassy of the Republic of Guinea Bissau in the Republic of South Africa.

ARTICLE 4
AREAS OF COOPERATION

Co-operation between the Parties shall take place in the following areas:

- (a) Technical and professional education and training of health professionals;
- (b) sharing experiences in creating conditions for telemedicine and telehealth;
- (c) twinning between public hospitals and public health institutions of the Republic of South Africa and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau;
- (d) specialised medical care and health services, including patient referrals;
- (e) surveillance, control and management of communicable and non-communicable diseases;
- (f) regulation and access to pharmaceuticals and vaccines;
- (g) human resources planning management; and
- (h) health systems management, including regulation and legislation in the health sector.