



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

SIXTH ROUND HEALTH ACCOUNTS DISSEMINATION

KEY REMARKS

HONOURABLE MINISTER DR. KALUMBI SHANGULA MINISTER

21 February 2017 – Windhoek Country Club and Resort, Windhoek

Dear Acting Country Representative of USAID

Dear Representatives of the UN Agencies

Dear Representatives of line Ministries

Dear Representatives of Development Partners in Health

Dear Representatives of the Private Sector and Non-Governmental Organizations

Distinguished Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am delighted to launch the results of Namibia's Sixth round of Health Accounts Exercise. The Ministry of Health and Social Services is proud to share the results of the Health Accounts for two consecutive years, 2015/16 and 2016/17. The 2015/16 and 2016/17 resource tracking exercise used a unique methodology that combined Health Accounts and the National AIDS Spending Assessment (NASA) estimations. Thus, Namibia is amongst the first countries to conduct this combined exercise.

Distinguished Participants,

The results provide critical information on Namibia's health financing landscape. This information is critical for strategic decision-making in the Ministry and by other stakeholders.

The Namibian Government continues to prioritize health provision to our people. This is borne out by the fact that the Government makes the largest contribution to health spending amounting to 56% in 2015/16 and 63% in 2016/17.

Distinguished Participants,

Namibia's disease burden is gradually transitioning from communicable to non-communicable diseases and this trend is reflected in the shares of health expenditures by disease. The findings reveal that there is limited support by donors for reproductive health and NCDs. This calls for more government funding. I am aware of the recently launched Strategic Plan on NCD, and I can only urge all of us to do our part to implement it.

While it is important for Namibia to secure additional financing for health to achieve its goals and sustain its health response, it is equally important to ensure that the resources are managed efficiently and effectively. Improvements in efficiencies and effectiveness can be achieved by reducing wastage of resources, eliminating bottlenecks and streamlining service delivery processes

The results of this exercise provide us with a basis of making informed decisions about resource allocations in the future.

Thus, the Ministry need to evaluate available options along with the options of additional financing sources to pave the path to improved sustainable healthcare in the country.

Distinguished Participants,

This valuable Health Accounts exercise would not have been possible without the committed efforts and crucial contributions of a wide range of stakeholders. I am grateful to all partners who were actively engaged in the process and provided technical input during the different stages of the exercise. These include members of the Technical Working Group and the Joint United Nations program on HIV/AIDS. Equally importantly, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), World Health Organisation and UNAIDS who supported this exercise.

With these few words, it is now my pleasure to officially launch the results of 2015/16 and 2016/17 Health Accounts for Namibia.

Thank you