



## **2023 - Embracing new Beginnings and Addressing New Challenges**

### **Message from SAHPRA CEO - Dr Boitumelo Semete-Makokotlela**

As we move to a brand new year, I take this opportunity to wish you and your families well. May you enjoy good health, happiness, and prosperity. I sincerely hope that you enjoyed a well-deserved break and that you are energized to tackle the year ahead with gusto.

SAHPRA has an important mandate and we value our stakeholders, both internal and external, who work in unison with us to ensure that SAHPRA delivers on its mandate – that is, ensuring access to health products that meet the requisite standards of quality, safety and efficacy, thereby ensuring that the South African public is safe at all times.

We strive to ensure that we continue to prioritise the review of health products for ailments such as Tuberculosis, HIV and Oncology including NCEs, ensuring that the quality of lives of those in South Africa remain top of our agenda. Furthermore, we are not completely out of the proverbial woods as far as COVID-19 goes and SAHPRA will maintain a finger on the pulse and prioritise health products that will support the ongoing battle against a pandemic of mammoth proportions, whose resilience is defined by its constant mutations that have led to a number of variants of concern.

As we traverse the road of enhancements and improvements, I shall keep you updated on key areas of development for this year. This includes, but is not limited to, licensing requirements aligned with the B-BBEE Act, working toward ISO accreditation, strengthening our regulatory processes so as to advance our efforts of becoming a WHO listed authority and to attract and retain top talent as the entity grows in stature.

As we continue to embrace digitisation, we intend to accelerate our projects we commenced with in 2022 as well as initiate further digital refinements.

Once again, I take this opportunity to wish you well in your endeavours in the new year and thank you for being a part of the SAHPRA machinery as we embark on further growth and development in 2023.

In the words of American industrialist and founder of the Ford Motor company ring true:

*“If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself.”*

Let us all embrace this tenet as we embrace SAHPRA’s mission and vision in reaching greater heights.