



JOINT MEDIA STATEMENT

To: Editors & Health Journalists Issued by: Department of Health

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MINISTER OF HEALTH DR AARON MOTSOALEDI AND UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES, DANA BROWN

The Hon Minister, Dr Aaron Motsoaledi, and the Chargé d'Affaires for the United States Mission to South Africa, Ms. Dana Brown, met yesterday to discuss bilateral health cooperation and new U.S. policies on assistance.

The Minister and the Chargé d'Affaires noted the importance of the assistance that South Africa has received from the United States since the start of the HIV and AIDS pandemic, over two decades ago. The Minister conveyed his thanks for this support. This assistance has been consistent and crucial to the drastic reduction in maternal to child transmission of HIV, infant deaths and the increase in life expectancy generally.

Communication channels are open between the Ministry and the Embassy, and we continue to discuss our life-saving health partnership moving forward.

Until details are available the Minister called on all persons on antiretrovirals (ARVs) to under no circumstances stop this life-saving treatment.

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