

TO: ALL MEDIA  
15 AUGUST 2013

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Statement on McCord hospital

In light of the media enquiries concerning the issues of McCord Hospital, the Department of Health would like to draw your attention to the following:

- Since the Department of Health announced that the Cabinet of the Government of the Province of KwaZulu-Natal would support McCord Hospital and take it over, negotiations were initiated and the MECs for Health and Provincial Treasury were always updated on the progress of the negotiations.
- Negotiations have so progressed that there is now an agreement awaiting to be signed to effect the take-over of McCord Hospital by the Provincial Government by September 2013.
- The MEC for Health, Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo who incidentally came across workers who were picketing about the issue of the closure of the McCord Hospital; recommitted the willingness of the Provincial Government to take over McCord Hospital.

Members of the media will be informed accordingly if there are new developments.

ENDS.