



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Esteemed Colleagues

I express my heartfelt greetings and respect to each of you as fellow practitioners dedicated to the noble profession of healthcare. As the president of the South African Medical Association Trade Union (SAMATU), I am filled with an immense sense of pride to be the president of this revolutionary organisation that has been birthed to care for medical doctors whilst they care for their patients.

The journey of SAMATU dates back to the year 1996. Born with the vision of becoming an inimitable platform for the medical practitioners in South Africa, we have continually aimed at fostering a representative, inclusive, and empowered medical community. The year 2022 marked a significant milestone in the history of SAMATU, as the union claimed its independence, underscoring its evolution into becoming the real voice for doctors.

Uniquely positioned, SAMATU is the only union in South Africa dedicated solely to be the voice of and represent medical doctors. We are a union that has been crafted by dedicated medical practitioners to the benefit of the profession, and the upcoming generations of medical practitioners. SAMATU encompasses the diversity of the profession, including every specialty's unique concerns and creating an environment that nurtures our shared goals and aspirations.

In this changing world, the healthcare landscape continues to challenge us, with inclusive representation and concerted advocacy becoming increasingly crucial. At SAMATU, we strive for radical change within the medical fraternity, advocating for equitable practices, improved working conditions, and a stronger voice for South African medical doctors. However, for this noble mission to realise its full potential, we require the combined strength of our membership. Our unity is our strength, and every additional voice amplifies our unified call for change. We cannot overcome our collective challenges without you.

Therefore, I sincerely invite you to join SAMATU. As part of our vibrant community, you will contribute to the collective effort of shaping a future where medical practice in South Africa is defined by fairness, growth, and forward-thinking approach.

As we write this new chapter in our profession's annals, let us remember our unity, vision, and commitment to the ideal of better healthcare that inspired us all to don the white coat. We are stronger together, and together, we are the catalyst for the radical change our fraternity needs.

To those that are already members of SAMATU, I thank you for believing in and being part of this movement that strives for excellence in healthcare by empowering doctors; and to those that are not yet members of the union, I urge you to become part of this movement and join us as we continue to fight the challenges that are faced by medical doctors.

I thank you.  
Amandla!

**Dr Langanani Mbodi**  
**President of SAMATU**