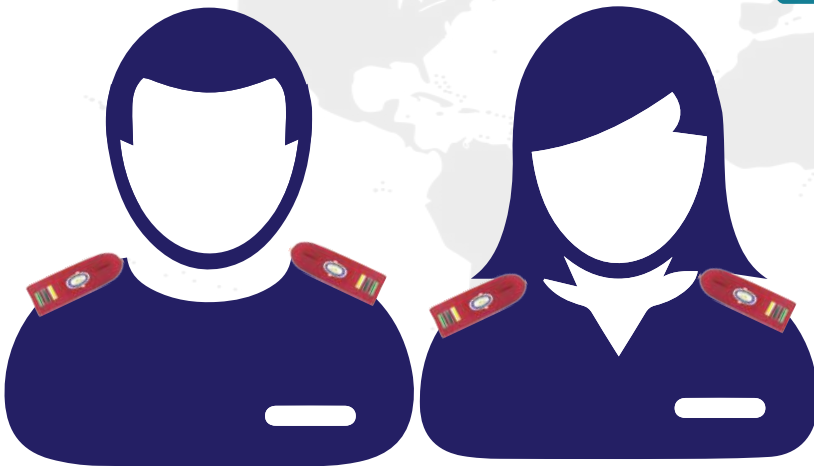


## INTERNATIONAL Nurses Day 12 May

# 2020



## YEAR OF THE NURSE & MIDWIFE

*The World Health Organization (WHO)* has declared 2020 as the International **Year of the Nurse and the Midwife** to mark the bicentenary of the birth of the founder of modern nursing, **Florence Nightingale** and to recognize the critical contribution both professions make to global health.

The month of May is a key moment to catalyse high-level dialogue and collaborative engagements for moving forward the findings of The State of the World's Nursing Report, which was launched on World Health Day, 7 April 2020, as part of the activities of the International Year of the Nurse and the Midwife.

The State of the World's Nursing Report can be accessed here:

<https://www.who.int/publications-detail/nursing-report-2020>

Nurses and midwives play a vital role in providing health services. They devote their lives to caring for for the whole spectrum of health care consumers throughout their lifespan and generally meeting everyday essential health needs. They are often the first and most of the time the only point of care in their communities. The world needs 9 million more nurses and midwives if it is to achieve universal health coverage by 2030. Despite this deficit, and other pressures associated with their duties, nurses and midwives soldier on, providing care under difficult conditions.

Join WHO and partners including, the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM), International Council of Nurses (ICN), Nursing Now and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in a year-long effort to celebrate the work of nurses and midwives, highlight the challenging conditions they often face, and advocate for increased investments in the nursing and midwifery workforce.

It's time to recognize the critical contribution nurses and midwives make to global health!



# 2020

## INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE NURSE AND THE MIDWIFE.



2020  
INTERNATIONAL YEAR  
OF THE NURSE AND  
THE MIDWIFE

#SupportNursesAndMidwives



World Health  
Organization

## SANC – APPRECIATING THE ROLE OF NURSES IN SOCIETY ON INTERNATIONAL NURSES DAY 2020

The World Health Organisation (WHO) Executive Board designated 2020 as the “Year of the Nurse and Midwife” in honour of the 200th birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale. The global nursing community is celebrating International Nurses Day on 12 May 2020.

How fitting is this theme during the Covid-19 crisis, where nurses are at the forefront of the crisis and serve as the backbone of the profession, often at great cost to themselves and their families. Nurses have never been thrown into the spotlight the way they are now, and have never been needed more. Daily, we are faced with stories of nurses’ compassion, selfless acts, courage and dedication in the midst of this crisis.

The SA Nursing Council is adding its full support to International Nurses Day 2020 with the Council-approved theme: **Appreciating the role of nurses in society**. This theme carries even more value during the Covid-19 outbreak, as the value of nurses and nursing becomes paramount in a fight for survival. The SANC is therefore proud to announce the launch of the SANC Nursing Excellence Awards as of 2020. The Awards will focus on conferring annual merit awards for outstanding service by nurses and providing a means for recognizing the contributions of nurses to the profession and to the public.

Nursing is a noble profession which requires the highest degree of professionalism, dedication and care. The health system cannot function without nursing as its backbone. But the stress that nurses work under daily cannot be under-estimated, especially during this pandemic.

Ms S Mchunu, Registrar and CEO: *“We acknowledge the efforts and sacrifices made by nurses daily, and especially during the Covid-19 pandemic. This is the Year of the Nurse in so many ways. We urge nurses and employers to remember that their health and safety are of key importance in the fight against this pandemic. We wish the nurses in South Africa a memorable International Nurses Day. Let us keep alive the words by the late Florence Nightingale: ‘For the sick it is important to have the best’”.*

# 12 May 2020 International Nurses Day

Being a nurse is part of who you are,  
a caregiver who is compassionate,  
loving and dedicated.



Nurses in South Africa, on this  
International Nurses Day  
***we salute you.***

Never forget your value and your  
role in society, and that you are valued.

**#bethatnurse** 

SANC video in honour of nurses on International Nurses Day 2020:  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=qwVy7LTRTA0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qwVy7LTRTA0)

**THEME:**  
Appreciating the role  
of nurses in society

cannot do everything;  
but make everything  
they do count

add value to what  
they do, and value  
what they do

are the backbone of  
the healthcare system

are the eyes  
and ears of the  
vulnerable

Wishing you a happy  
**INTERNATIONAL  
NURSES DAY**

**2020**



## SANC NURSING EXCELLENCE AWARDS TO BE LAUNCHED

The SANC is proud to announce the launch of the **SANC Nursing Excellence Awards** as part of the 2020 International Year of the Nurse and Midwife-theme for International Nurses Day: *Appreciating the role of nurses in society*.

The South African Nursing Council (SANC) is the body entrusted to set and maintain standards of nursing education and practice in the Republic of South Africa. The SANC regulates the nursing profession by establishing nursing education and training; it also advocates on behalf of the public in matters concerning nursing.

As representative body of the nursing profession, the SANC would like to acknowledge the individuals who excel beyond their normal call of duty by way of a merit award process.

### AIM

- To confer annual merit awards for outstanding service by nurses within their chosen field
- To confer annual merit awards to nurses in a non-medical field e.g. academic, art, etc.
- Awards can contribute to the image of the nursing profession by:
  - Providing motivation to nurses to increase and uphold the standard of nursing in South Africa
  - Providing a means for recognizing the contributions of nurses to the profession and to the public
  - Providing an opportunity to create public awareness of the value of the nurse in healthcare.

### OBJECTIVES

The SANC Nursing Excellence Awards should:

- Promote the image of nursing as the gatekeepers of healthcare in South Africa
- Promote the profession of nursing
- Provide recognition to nurses within their chosen field
- Provide recognition to nurses in non-medical fields, e.g. academic, art, etc.

The SANC is setting up an Awards Committee to formalise the process. As soon as the details have been finalised nomination forms and criteria will be made available – watch this space.