

#SANCnews

Regulating nursing, advocating for the public

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Celebrating 80 years of self-regulation: 1944-2024

On 8 November 2024, the South African Nursing Council celebrated 80 years of self-regulation from 8 November 1944 – 08 November 2024.

The main event was hosted at The Capital Hotel Menlyn Maine, Pretoria East.

This major milestone was celebrated with the necessary formalities, attendance by current and former Council members, key figures within healthcare, previous SANC staff members as well as some current SANC staff. Prior to the main event, a separate event was hosted for all SANC staff on the SANC premises.

In the words of Council Chairperson, Dr M Molepo: ***"Today, we gather to honour our past, embrace our future and celebrate 80 unbelievable years of self-regulation. We do this with immense gratitude to the heart of the SANC: its nurses; its people."***

SANC STAFF EVENT

The SANC hosted the staff event on 07 November 2024, at Council Chambers from 13:00 to 16:30.

The Chairperson of Council, Dr M Molepo was the keynote speaker for this event, which was followed by a video on the 80 years of self-regulation by the SANC.

EVENT FOR EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS

The 80th birthday celebration was attended by 175 guests, which included the following stakeholders, amongst others:

- National Department of Health
- Provincial Departments of Health

- SADC delegates (SADC Nurse Regulators' Forum)
- Regulatory bodies
- Professional Associations
- Employers – public and private
- SADC delegates
- SAMHS
- Unions, and other distinguished guests.

The National Department of Health was represented by the Government Chief Nursing Officer, Dr NJ Makhanya.

In line with the historical component of the event, the following previous Council Chairpersons and Registrars were also invited to share their moment in time with the audience:

Ms H Subedar (Former Registrar)
Dr M Mabuda (Former Registrar)
Ms S Mchunu (Former Registrar)
Dr NJ Makhanya (Former Chairperson)
Prof B Bhengu (Former Chairperson).



Prof B Bhengu (Former Chairperson),
Ms H Subedar (Former Registrar), Dr M Molepo (Chairperson),
Ms S Mchunu (Former Registrar)
and Dr M Mabuda (Former Registrar).

The programme was preceded by a **Guard of Honour and Bagpipe Player hosted by the Military Nurses**, ushering in the formalities to the great delight of all guests while setting the stage for an event of note.



The Government Chief Nursing Officer, Dr Makhanya was the officially designated speaker on behalf of the Minister of Health's office and as such elucidated the key moments during the past 80 years within the SANC and nursing.

Dr Makhanya, Dr Molepo and Prof Mtshali concluded the day's programme with the unveiling of the 80th plaque and cutting of an 80th-shaped cake, followed by champagne.



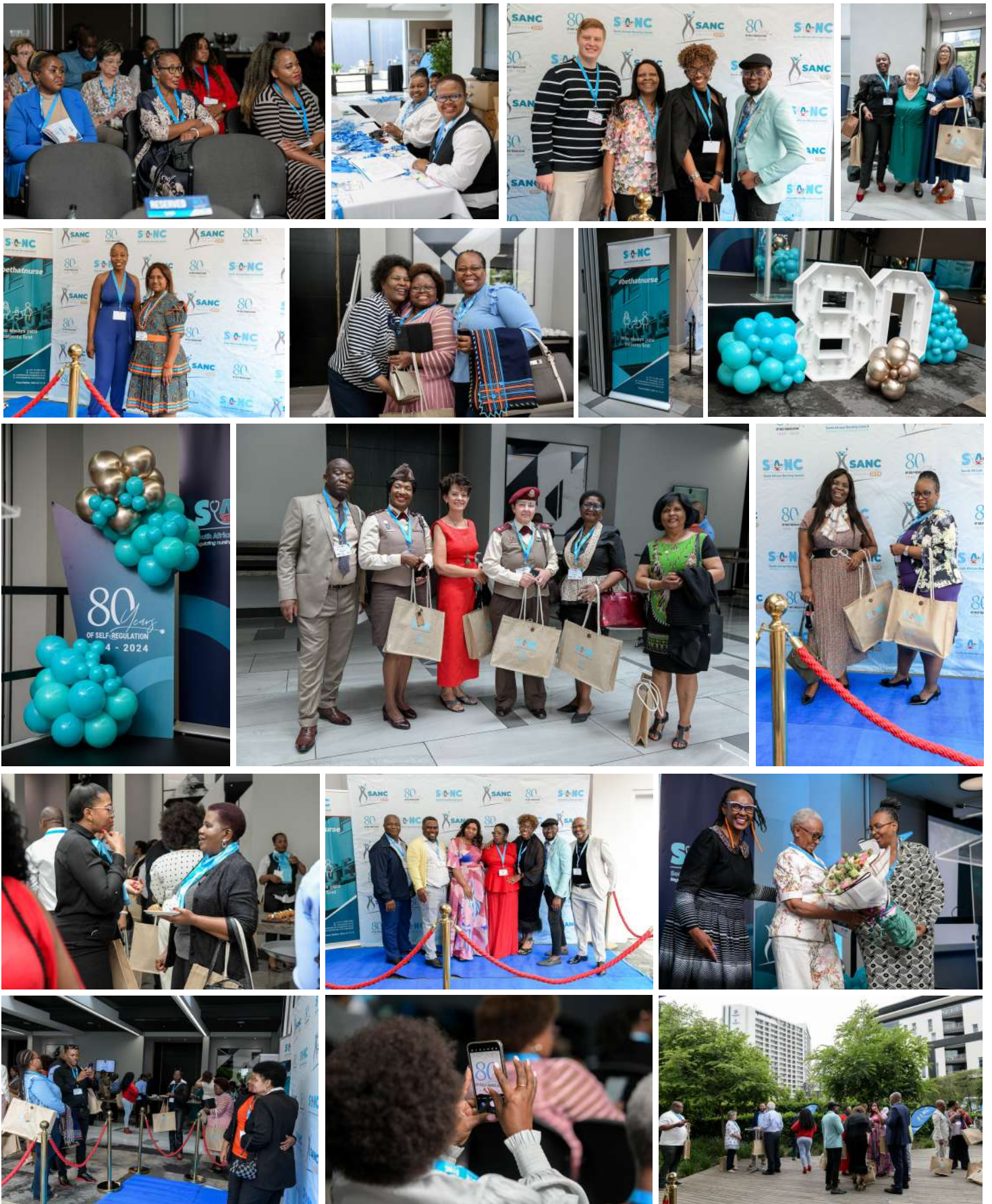
From left: Prof NG Mtshali (Registrar and CEO), Dr M Molepo (Chairperson) and Dr NJ Makhanya (Government Chief Nursing Officer).

The National Department of Health also sent a congratulatory and reminiscent message to the SANC by way of a video recording featuring Dr SM Dhlomo, Chairperson of Portfolio Committee on Health. The message can be seen here: https://youtu.be/bG8v_d3y5wg

A video of the SANC 80th event can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q1aZBPkW2ds>

The event was broadcasted live via the SANC Facebook page.







SANC Nursing Excellence Awards 2024

The SANC Nursing Excellence Awards confer annual Excellence Awards for outstanding service by nurses and Nursing Education Institutions within their chosen field, who are in good standing with the SA Nursing Council.

The Awards aim to motivate nurses and Institutions to improve and uphold the standard of nursing in South Africa. It is a means for recognizing the contributions of nurses to the profession and to the public and an opportunity to create public awareness of the value of the nurse and nursing in healthcare.

The Awards are exclusive, meaning that if no suitable candidate is found to be nominated for a certain category, the Awards Committee reserves the right not to award for that category.

The Nursing Excellence Awards, or NEA is on the SANC's annual calendar as a key stakeholder event, with its main purpose being that of showcasing and elevating nurses and the profession of nursing.

The first NEA was hosted in May 2023 at the SANC Nursing Indaba.

The NEA Committee, established by Council as an ad-hoc Council Committee, is mandated to manage the adjudication process of the NEA, thereby ensuring it remains fair and objective.



The roles and responsibilities of the Awards Committee, inter alia, in terms of the Committee's Terms of Reference (TORS), approved by Council, include the following:

- Evaluate and adjudicate applicants and nominees based on the Council approved criteria.
- Select a preferred nominee based on the award criteria and the documentation provided in the nomination guidelines.
- Provide confidential written recommendations to the Council, outlining the committees' preferred recipients and rationale for recommendations against the approved guidelines.

The criteria applied against the received nominations for 2024 is the same criteria as approved by Council in 2023.

The following nominations were received for the 2024 Nursing Excellence Awards:

Nr	Awards Category	Number of nominations
1.	Cecilia Makiwane Award – Nursing Practice	77
2.	Student Community Development Award	7
3.	Henrietta Stockdale Award	7
4.	Nurse Researcher Award	9
5.	Lifetime Achievement Extra-Ordinary Award	33

We would like to offer our heartfelt congratulations to the following: award recipients for their contribution towards improving and upholding the profession:



Cecilia Makiwane Award
Ms Brenda Nkateko Shilubane



Life Achievement Extra-Ordinary Service
Ms Constance Maida Motsei



Nurse Researcher Award
Professor Leepile Alfred Sehularo



Chairperson's Award
Professor Karien Jooste

May you grow from strength to strength and heed this special calling on your life.

SANC signs Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with SADC countries



The Southern African Development Community (**SADC**) **Nursing and Midwifery Regulators' Forum** was established on 29 March 2022. The objective was to provide a premier platform to present and discuss the most recent innovations, trends, and concerns as well as practical challenges encountered, and solutions adopted in the field of governance, nursing and midwifery.

The SADC Nursing and Midwifery Regulators Forum had consultations with the member countries to formulate the objectives and establish an interim collaboration protocol. On 10 October 2024 the interim collaboration protocol for the SADC Nursing and Midwifery Regulator was approved.

On 08 November 2024, the South African Nursing Council hosted the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Nursing and Midwifery Regulators Forum for the signing ceremony of the Interim Protocol at the Capital Hotel, Menlyn Maine, Pretoria East.

The ceremony was a hybrid event and was attended physically by the South African Nursing Council, Lesotho Nursing Council, Nurses and Midwives Council of Malawi and Health Professions Council of Namibia. The Nursing and Midwifery Council of Botswana, Seychelles Nurses and Midwives Council and Nurses Council of Zimbabwe participated virtually.

The objectives of the Regulators' Forum are mainly to:

- Identify regulatory matters necessary for strengthening Nursing and Midwifery Regulators within the SADC region;
- Share best practice in professional nursing regulation, nursing practice, nursing education, research imperatives within the context of regulators;
- Promote collaborations and partnerships in strengthening regulatory systems within the SADC region;
- Promote seamless benchmarking and exchange of information;
- Work towards harmonising practices (and processing) such as registration of international (Foreign) nurses and qualifications; and
- Identify and share relevant legislative/ regulatory frameworks.

Prof Champion Nyoni, Technical Officer, Education and Training of the Health Workforce Unit at the World Health Organization Regional Office for Africa, expressed his appreciation of this milestone and shared insights on potential areas of collaboration with the World Health Organisation, and expansion of the collaboration into other regions within the continent.

The keynote address was delivered by the South African Government Chief Nursing Officer, Dr JN Makhanya who congratulated the Nursing and Midwifery Regulators for the key achievement and highlighted the importance of collaborations and partnerships for the nursing and midwifery profession as evidenced by this initiative,

Annual Practising Certificate (APC) 2025

ANNUAL PRACTISING CERTIFICATE (APC) 2025

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

1

The annual fees for 2025 must be received by the SANC on or before **31 December 2024**

2

Remember: Bank transfers from different banks take up to **3 working days** - pay well in advance to meet the **31 December 2024** deadline

3

* Request **voluntary removal** if you are not practising as a nurse = reduced restoration fees to be re-registered

4

eRegister: Acceptable legal means to verify your registration status with the SANC, in the absence of a physical certificate.

Visit: www.sanc.co.za/eRegister.aspx

5

Community Service: Your registration fee code is: REGFPRA, **not** ANLFEEES (e.g. 12345678REGFPRA)

6

APC Delivery: An option to deliver your APC by courier is available at a cost of R70.00 (subject to increase) which must be paid together with your 2025 annual fee



SANC virtual Stakeholder eForum 2024

The SANC hosted a successful hybrid Stakeholder Forum on Wednesday, 27 November 2024 with 258 attendees who joined virtually and SANC Executives and Senior Managers who attended physically.

The presentations were based on the following matters: Finance, Learner Affairs, Provider Affairs, Monitoring and Evaluation and Professional Practice.

During the finance presentation, the Chief Financial Officer, Mr T Mokoena urged the stakeholders to encourage their constituents to pay their annual fees on time ensuring they use the correct payment codes to avoid restorations. He highlighted that this assists the SANC in allocating the payments on time and expediting the printing of Annual Practicing Certificates (APCs). He also applauded the Provincial Departments of Health for complying with the PERSAL deductions agreement. The employers were also encouraged to utilise the SANC eRegister to confirm the registration status for practitioners in the absence of the physical APC.

The Acting Senior Manager: Learner Affairs, Dr C Mabena emphasised the importance of following due processes when submitting learner information for registration. She mentioned some of the challenges that delay the registration process such as the submission of incomplete learner applications, delayed responses from Nursing Education Institutions, use of incorrect payment codes, exceeding the approved number of learners per intake, and the commencement of training whilst the programme is conditionally accredited. She also encouraged the stakeholders to update their personal details as required by the Nursing Act, 2005 (Act No. 33 of 2005). Updating personal details assists in avoiding errors in registration of learners and nurses.

Ms J Mabala, Senior Manager: Provider Affairs, delivered a presentation on factors affecting the curriculum evaluation and accreditation such as non-submission of letters of support from the respective Provincial Department of Health, an annexure allocating clinical facilities, and a Memorandum of Agreement between the NEI and the Provincial Department of Health. Another challenge that delays this process is non-compliance to standards when compiling the curriculum documents, the human resources plan, programme design, work integrated learning, situational analysis, assessments (theory and practical), and so forth.

Ms Mabala requested stakeholders to adhere to the due dates reflected in the feedback letters for submission of outstanding information on curriculum evaluation. She emphasised factors to be considered when allocating the number of students per intake.

Ms M Mzolo, Manager: Monitoring and Evaluation provided feedback on the self-assessment report and portfolio of evidence. She informed the stakeholders that those NEIs that have not received any correspondence from the SANC, or have not been inspected yet, will be issued with a letter of extension for one year as the inspections are still in progress.

She further elaborated that submissions of annual self-assessment reports and annual returns for learner nurses are due at the end of January of each year and that a workshop will be held to discuss the documents to be submitted. The stakeholders were reminded that when they apply for re-accreditation they are required to pay the application fee, and on receipt of the reaccreditation certificate they must pay the reaccreditation fee as required by the Regulations relating to accreditation of Institutions as Nursing Education Institutions (Government Notice NO. R.173 of 8 March 2013) regulation 12(2).

The Senior Manager: Professional Practice, Dr J Muswede focused on the progress of the phased-in Continuing Professional Development (CPD) implementation wherein from July 2024, CPD implementation briefing meetings were conducted with participating stakeholders and hospitals in line with the approved phased-in CPD implementation plan. The purpose of the briefing sessions was to outline the process to be followed in the phased-in CPD implementation. The SANC team, consisting of CPD Committee Members and the CPD section conducted meetings with all nine provinces, Mediclinic, Life Healthcare, Netcare, National Hospital Network and Clinix groups. The Council is in the process of developing a process to accredit service providers to enable seamless CPD implementation.

Dr Muswede further updated the stakeholders on the Private Practice Regulations which were gazetted for public comments by the National Department of Health (NDoH) on 2 June 2024. Several meetings were held to consider invaluable comments received and Regulations have been submitted to the NDoH for promulgation.

Dr Muswede made a plea to employers to refrain from employing nurses without current registration with the SANC or whose names were removed from the register in terms of Section 44 of the Nursing Act, 2005 (Act No. 33 of 2005). She also alerted stakeholders that since the establishment of the Impairment Committee, the SANC has noted with concern the deteriorating vigilance in the management of scheduled substances/medicines in healthcare establishments, both public and private, which leads to abuse of these substances/ medicines by nurses.

The SANC values and appreciates the input received from delegates and look forward to more of these engagement opportunities. Stakeholders and employers are urged to use the SANC service-oriented emails so that their enquiries are attended to by a specific and relevant department.

The Powerpoint slide presentations linked to the above items are available on the SANC website at:

<https://www.sanc.co.za/stakeholder-forum/>