

## **PRESS RELEASE- 12 February 2010**

### **First Rural Health in Focus invites the President, the Minister of Finance, and the Minister of Health to shadow a rural doctor for a day**

In his State of the Nation Address, President Zuma reinforced the message that government is serious about improving the nation's health. While quality, equity, efficiency and expenditure control is at the heart of government's health strategy, decisions continue to be made that harm the health and quality of care for the 43,7% of the population residing in rural areas.

In this first issue of Rural Health in Focus, we offer a set of recommendations to achieve equity and improve quality, while working efficiently with the scarce resources available.

To assess the relevance of these recommendations, and experience first-hand what quality, equity, efficiency and expenditure control means for rural health services **we invite the President, the Minister and Deputy Minister of Finance, the Minister and Deputy Minister of Health, as well as the other Finance MinMec and Members of the National Health Council to shadow a rural doctor for a day.**

Full details are provided in the attached Rural Health in Focus.

#### **For more information:**

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Attachment: Rural Health in Focus: Making expenditure control, equity and efficiency work for Rural Health.