

ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL COUNCILS OF AFRICA



# AMCOA PROTOCOL ON REGULATION OF THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN HEALTHCARE

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## **AMCOA PROTOCOL ON REGULATION OF THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN HEALTHCARE**

**WHEREAS** the **REGULATION ON THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN HEALTHCARE** in the member councils of AMCOA takes various forms both in structure and content; and

**RECOGNISING** the increase in the use of technology in healthcare in the AMCOA Member countries; and

**FURTHER RECOGNISING** the need to put in place guidelines for AMCOA Member Councils to regulate the use of technology in healthcare to ensure patients safety.

**NOW THEREFORE THE PARTIES TO THIS PROTOCOL DO HEREBY ADOPT THE PRINCIPLES ENSHRINED HEREIN AS A FRAMEWORK FOR THE REGULATION OF THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN HEALTHCARE IN THE MEMBER COUNTRIES:-**

### **Short title**

This protocol shall be cited as the AMCOA Protocol on Regulation of the use of Technology in Healthcare.

### **Interpretation**

In this Protocol, unless the contexts otherwise requires;

**“AMCOA”** means Association of Medical Councils of Africa.

**“Council”** means Councils and Boards, as are applicable, in different Countries.

## **1. REGULATIONS**

It is agreed that member Councils shall;

- a) Develop Guidelines or Regulations in their respective Countries to regulate the use of Technology, including software, apps, and other such technologies, in healthcare that shall include among others:
  - i. informed consent;
  - ii. conflict of interest,
  - iii. mobile health (m-health)
  - iv. electronic health (e-health)
  - v. tele-medicine
  - vi. medical privacy;
  - vii. patient confidentiality;

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- viii. continuous maintenance; and
  - ix. disposal.
- b) Develop an appropriate strategy for information, communication and dissemination on technologies used in the treatment of patients
  - c) Develop and continuously review guidelines on the use of social media in healthcare.
  - d) Collaborate with the relevant authorities in the development of Rules, Regulations and Guidelines containing specification or precise criteria to ensure any technology used in their respective Countries is fit for their purpose.

## **2. EDUCATION & TRAINING**

It is agreed that Councils shall;

- (a) Ensure that users of any technology are appropriately trained before deployment of the technology in healthcare.
- (b) Enforce continuous education and training programs on the use of technology in healthcare.
- (c) Encourage inclusion of the use of technology in education and training programs.

## **3. ADVOCACY**

It is agreed that Councils shall ensure that they:–

- a) proactively advocate for legislative reforms on the use of technologies in healthcare.

## **4. ENABLING FRAMEWORK**

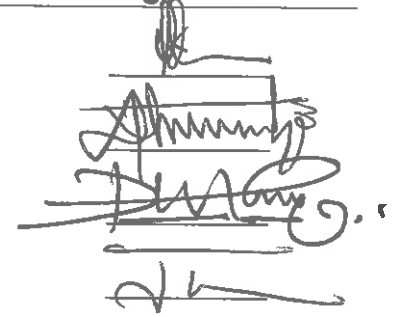
All member countries that are signatories to this protocol agree to pursue processes of aligning or developing legislative and other policy frameworks to facilitate the implementation of the principles enshrined in this protocol.

**THUS DONE AND SIGNED AT THE SPIER WINE ESTATE, WESTERN CAPE, SOUTH AFRICA ON THIS DAY, 25<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2017**

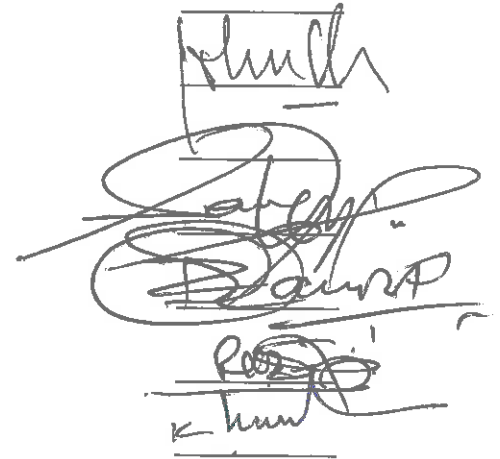
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**Member Council****Signature**

1. **Botswana** Health Professions Council
2. Medical & Dental Council of **Ghana**
3. Medical Practitioners and Dentists Board of **Kenya**
4. Medical, Dental & Pharmacy Council of **Lesotho**
5. **Liberia** Medical and Dental Council
6. Medical Council of **Malawi**
7. Medical & Dental Councils of **Mauritius**
8. Medical & Dental Councils of **Nigeria**
9. Health Professions Councils of **Namibia**
10. **Rwanda** Medical & Dental Council
11. Medical & Dental Council of **Seychelles**
12. Medical & Dental Council of **Sierra Leone**
13. Health Professions Council of **South Africa**
14. **South Sudan** Medical Council
15. Medical & Dental Council of **Swaziland**
16. Medical Council of **Tanganyika**
17. Medical & Dental Practitioners Council of **Uganda**
18. Health Professions Council of **Zambia**
19. Medical & Dental Practitioners Council of **Zimbabwe**



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