

**MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE**  
**INTERNAL CIRCULAR NOTICE NO. 9 OF 2000**

Our Ref: **II/ADM/30**

Ministry of Health & Social Welfare  
P. O. Box 514  
MASERU 100

18 December 2000

**TO:** THE DGHS  
THE DPHC  
ALL HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS  
ALL HEADS OF DIVISIONS  
THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT - Q. E. II HOSPITAL  
ALL DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICERS

**COPY:** HON. MINISTER - HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE  
GOVERNMENT SECRETARY  
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

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**RE: SMOKING BAN IN HEALTH FACILITIES**

The Ministry of Health and Social Welfare has a National Public Health obligation of leading the citizens of Lesotho to the Smoke-free World. It is therefore mandated to lead by example. As health workers we are aware of the consequence of smoking to the smoker and non-smoker. So let's play a pivotal role in creating smoke-free environment for our workers, patients and visitors. Let all health institutions serve as a window of hope to the smoke-free Lesotho.

In an effort to practices what it preaches, the Ministry therefore declares:

- 1) All Ministry of Health and Social Welfare institutions as non-smoking areas.
- 2) Prohibits the sale of all tobacco products within the health premises and in the immediate surroundings.

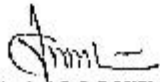
- 3) All Ministry of Health and Social Welfare vehicles are declared smoke-free.

All managers of HSAs, Departments and Divisions are urged to ensure that this notice reaches all staff members in their sections. This is a serious and important move. All managers should closely monitor strict enforcement of this directive.

For any materials that can facilitate the success of this exercise please contact the National Focal Point on Tobacco Control at the Health Education Division. Let us all start the New Year with healthy minds full of healthy ideas.

*This directive takes effect from 1 January 2001.*

Happy New Year to you all.

  
**DR. M. MOSOTHO**  
**PRINCIPAL SECRETARY**  
**HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE**