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Appendix 3b:

Submissions from the Ministry of Health



**MINISTRY OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF THE CABINET SECRETARY**

Telephone: Nairobi 254-020-2717077
Fax: 254-2719008
Email: cs@health.go.ke
When replying please quote:

AFYA HOUSE
CATHEDRAL ROAD
P. O Box 30016-00100
NAIROBI

Ref: MOH/ADMIN/VOL.II/121

25th August 2023

J. M. Nyegenye, CBS
Clerk of the Senate
Parliament Buildings
NAIROBI

**RE: INVITATION TO A MEETING WITH THE SENATE AD HOC
COMMITTEE ON THE COMPANSATION OF THE KENYAN VICTIMS
OF THE 1998 BOMBING OF THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY IN
NAIROBI**

Reference is made to your letter ref. SEN/ADHOC COMP /05 dated 17th august 2023, on the above subject. Your attention is drawn to item number three in the letter that the Senate Ad Hoc committee on the compensation of Kenyan victims of 1998 Bombing of the United States Embassy in Nairobi invited the Cabinet Secretary for Health to a meeting on 25th August 2023 **to explore provision of subsidised medical treatment for surviving victims of the blast** in which I wish to respond as follows:

1. The bomb blast, which claimed the lives of 213 Kenyans and injured over 5000 people, happened on 07th August 1998 when terrorists attacked the US Embassy and the adjacent buildings in Nairobi.
2. The spirit of universal health coverage is to leave no one behind and ensure all Kenyans access quality health care. The bomb blast victims experienced various forms of injuries ranging from cuts, fractures, amputation of limbs and organ injuries which may be fatal or non-fatal.
3. The survivors of the 1998 bomb blast which occurred 25 years ago may have experienced complications and sequelae's of the injuries which could include various types of disabilities, mental health issues, chronic pain among others. Therefore, the survivors may need different types of medical care including rehabilitation services,

assistive technology, correctional surgeries, pain management, psychosocial support among others.

To provide subsidized medical care for the survivors, the following needs to be explored;

- a) There is need to understand the current health needs of the survivors by reviewing their medical records and undertaking medical assessment. This can be done through a formally constituted medical board.
- b) There is need to assess vulnerability status of the survivors by the State Department of Social Protection. This will identify the vulnerable groups with limited ability to pay for their health care, who can be included into the NHIF subsidized health insurance under the National Scheme through counties.
- c) Parliament could set aside a special fund to pay for the annual premium for the survivors to access either a tailor-made/enhanced health benefit package at NHIF or the current National Scheme.
- d) MOH to explore areas of partnering with like minds to give the required assistance that shall improve the wellbeing of the victims.

Chair and honorable members I submit.



NAKHUMICHA S. WAFULA
CABINET SECRETARY