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End of Year Message from the CEO of the South African Association

As we approach the close of another remarkable year, I want to take this moment to reflect on the journey we have travelled together. This has been a year of challenges, progress, and renewed hope, and it is through your unwavering dedication and passion that we have emerged stronger as a community.

The field of dentistry has faced many changes, but one constant has been the steadfast commitment of our members to upholding the highest standards of care for South Africans. You have demonstrated resilience in adapting to new technologies, policies, and patient needs, all while maintaining the heart of our profession - compassion and service.

This year, SADA has achieved significant milestones, including advancing our advocacy efforts, enhancing member support programs, and providing continued professional development opportunities. These accomplishments are a testament to the collective strength of our association and the trust you place in us to lead.

As we prepare to welcome 2025, let us remember the values that unite us: integrity, excellence, and collaboration. Together, we will continue to elevate our profession, inspire the next generation of dental professionals, and contribute to the health and well-being of our nation.

On behalf of the entire leadership team at the South African Association, I extend my heartfelt gratitude for your contributions to our shared mission. May this festive season bring you and your loved ones peace, joy, and a well-deserved rest.

Here is to a prosperous and impactful 2025. Together, we will achieve even greater heights!

SADA Membership Renewal Update: A Smooth Transition to 2025

As we wrap up 2024, we're thrilled to announce that this year's membership renewal process has been one of the most successful to date! A record number of members have already renewed their membership, and we've welcomed new and returning members than in the previous renewal periods. This overwhelming response is a testament to the trust and

value you place in being part of the SADA community. Based on the current renewals by members, we are projecting an upward membership growth in 2025.

To those who have already renewed, thank you for your commitment. To our new and returning members, welcome to a vibrant association committed to your professional success. If you're still considering your renewal, let us remind you why being part of SADA is a decision that truly works for you.

Important Updates and Reminders for 2025 Renewals

1. Reconnect with a 50% Discount for 2024 Membership

If your membership was inactive in 2024, we have made it easy for you to come back. We're offering a **50% discount on your 2024 fees** - a gesture to help you seamlessly rejoin the SADA family. This gives you immediate access to our CPD-acquiring platforms and ensures a hassle-free renewal for 2025. You will be able to access all the SADA membership benefits for 2024.

Note: The 50% discount applies only to 2024 fees; 2025 fees remain as published. Don't miss this opportunity to reconnect with SADA!

2. Renewal Notices Are Out—Check Yours

Renewal notices for both **SADA membership** and **Dental Protection (DP) membership** have been sent out over the past three weeks. If you haven't received yours yet, please contact us immediately to verify your details and ensure you're not left out.

3. Simplified Payment Options for Your Convenience

We've streamlined the payment process so you can renew quickly and easily. Upon receiving your invoice, you can:

- Pay online using a **credit card, debit card, or instant EFT**.
- Use the **QR code** provided to complete your payment effortlessly.
- All from the comfort of your desk! It's never been easier to secure your membership.

4. Automatic Renewal for Debit Orders

- **Current Debit Order Members:** If you're already on a debit order in 2024, no action is required. Your membership will renew automatically, with deductions starting between **15 January 2025** and **30 January 2025**, depending on your selected DP Grade or SADA membership type.
- **New Debit Orders:** If you want to pay via debit order, contact us to arrange this and complete a bank mandate. (Note: Separate debit orders are required for SADA and DP memberships.)
- If you're **switching payment methods** or cancelling a debit order, let us know to avoid duplicate payments.

5. Cross-Border Payment Fees and Improved Systems

Members previously charged cross-border fees through our GlueUp platform will receive credits into their accounts early 2025. We are in discussion with Paypage to give us this detail and report. To avoid these charges, we have now moved to **Netcash**, offering a cost-effective and seamless payment process. Soon, we'll introduce a **local payment gateway with international reach**, ensuring even greater convenience without additional fees.

What's Next for SADA in 2025?

We are reimagining how we deliver value to our members, and 2025 promises to be a transformative year. As a paid member, you'll benefit from:

- **Practical Practice Support:** Innovative tools and resources to help you run your practice more efficiently.
- **Exclusive Partner Benefits:** Discounts on essential services, cutting-edge technology, and partnerships that lower your operational costs.
- **Professional Growth Opportunities:** Access to CPD platforms, training, and mentorship programs to keep you ahead in the profession.

Why Join or Renew with SADA?

In 2025, **only paid members** will enjoy the full benefits of SADA's initiatives. We're drawing a clear line to ensure that the resources and opportunities we create are exclusively for those invested in our community.

We're also exploring ways to honour our long-standing members with continuous membership. Your loyalty has been the foundation of SADA's success, and we're excited to introduce programs that recognize your commitment.

SADA is more than an association - it's your partner in growth and success. Don't miss out on the chance to be part of something bigger. Join us as we move forward, stronger and more focused than ever, creating value and revolutionizing how the dental profession operates in South Africa.

Exciting Board Announcements: A Strong Foundation for SADA's Future

We are thrilled to share updates on the reconstitution of the SADA Board - an exceptional team of leaders who are set to guide our association with vision, integrity, and dedication. As we look to 2025 and beyond, SADA's governance is firmly in capable hands, ensuring that we remain a trusted partner for our members and a leader in the dental profession.

Meet Our Leadership Team

- Dr. F. Meyer, Chairperson (also chairperson of NOMCOM)
- Dr. P. Mathai, President
- Dr. J. Welgemoed, Chairperson of the DPCOM
- Dr. N. Niranjani, Chairperson of SERCOM
- Dr. F. Mansoor, Chairperson of AURCOM
- Dr. R. Vermeulen, Board Member
- Dr. Y. Solomons, Board Member
- Mr KC Makhubele, CEO

Expanding Our Vision with Independent Directors

To strengthen our governance even further, SADA is in the process of appointing **two independent directors** to oversee the **finance** and **governance** portfolios. This move underscores our commitment to transparency, accountability, and world-class operational standards. These independent directors will bring fresh perspectives, ensuring that SADA continues to operate with the highest level of integrity and professionalism.

A Vision for the Future

With this outstanding leadership team at the helm, SADA is poised to deliver on its promise to elevate the dental profession. Our board is united in its mission to create tangible value for our members, enhance the association's impact, and drive innovation in how we support dental practices across the country.

This is more than just a governance update - it's a statement of intent. Under this leadership, SADA is set to become stronger, more focused, and more responsive to the evolving needs of our members. The work ahead will involve pioneering new initiatives, improving our member benefits, and cementing SADA as a cornerstone of support for the dental profession.

We are confident that this board will lead with vision, purpose, and a commitment to excellence. Together, we are building a brighter future for our members, the profession, and oral health in South Africa.

Now is the perfect time to join or renew your membership and be part of this exciting journey. With SADA's governance in better hands than ever, you can trust that we are working tirelessly to support you and your practice. The future is bright - come and be part of it!

Festive Season Office Closure and Clinical Support Update

As the festive season approaches, we would like to inform our members about SADA's upcoming office schedule. The SADA offices will close for the holidays on **20 December 2024** and will re-open with a **skeleton staff on 2 January 2025**. The full team will gradually return, with the majority of staff resuming their duties from **15 January 2025**.

We also wish to announce that our esteemed Clinical Manager, **Dr Tinesha Parbhoo**, is currently on maternity leave and will return to her role on **1 March 2025**. During her absence, we have ensured that our clinical support services remain uninterrupted by securing the expertise of **two highly experienced and well-versed dentists** to manage this portfolio.

Clinical Support During This Period

- Members can continue to direct all clinical queries to **clinical@sada.co.za**.
- Where necessary, arrangements will be made to facilitate direct communication with our interim clinical managers.
- Please note that due to the full-time practice commitments of these clinicians, **telephonic clinical support may be limited**. However, we are committed to ensuring your queries are handled promptly and effectively.

At SADA, we remain focused on maintaining the highest level of service and support for our members, even during this transitional period. The health of your practice and your ability to deliver quality care remain our top priorities. Rest assured, your interests are in good hands, and we have taken every measure to ensure that this holiday season and beyond will run smoothly.

We thank you for your understanding and co-operation and look forward to supporting you into the new year.

KC Makhubele
Chief Executive Officer



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