

# Medical workers, don't forget the oath you took to save lives

Strikes in the Public Service have been ongoing for a long time and now, medical workers have also joined the bandwagon. Health workers have gone on strike demanding increase in their salaries as well as improving their working conditions.

This is not the first time medical workers have gone on strike. Medical interns in all government hospitals have also been striking demanding an increase in their allowances.

However, we understand that on assumption of their duties, medical doctors swear an oath to always put lives of patients first before their personal needs. But given what is happening today, doctors across the country have gone against the oath they took.

Consequently, many lives have been lost in public health facilities countrywide.

This leaves me wondering as to whether some of the medical doctors we have studied medicine



because they passed exams or because they know that the medical profession is a calling and they need to save life first.

I appreciate the work done by medical workers given the fact that they work extra hours to save lives even when the working conditions may not be the best. However, they also need to reconsider their demands given our limited economic base. With intention of harmonising salary structures across the board,

the President early this year directed the Ministry of Public Service to establish a Salary Review Commission. Better still, the commission is due to produce a report on its findings by the end of November.

It is, therefore, advisable that the affected civil servants suspend their strikes and wait for the outcome of the report, which is intended to address their concerns.

**Mariam Natasha,**  
[natashamariam17@gmail.com](mailto:natashamariam17@gmail.com)