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D.N. 7-5-87.

LOCAL NEWS

New terms for medics out soon

THE Government is expected to announce a scheme of service for Kenyan doctors next week.

This was said in Nairobi yesterday by Mr. K. S. A. Jeneby, Acting Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Health. It will be the first time for Kenyan doctors to have such a scheme of service, he stated.

The scheme will have a growth period of 19 years instead of 18 proposed by the doctors.

Addressing the doctors at Kenyatta Hospital, Mr. Jeneby said the Government had also accepted to pay allowances to doctors ranging between 400/- and 600/- per month. He did not specify what form the allowances would take.

The effective date for the allowances would be May 1, Mr. Jeneby said.

He informed the doctors the Government had accepted to pay them book allowance for those proceeding for post-graduate studies at the university.

The doctors had asked for book allowance of 5,000/- for the three-year training period at the university.

The doctors were not happy with the proposed scheme of service and the allowances. Most of them felt the scheme would make no difference to their current emoluments.

Dr. J.M. Mumia, chairman of the committee which looked into the Waruhiu Commission report, said the doctors had gained:

He told the doctors their proposals had been accepted by

By NATION Reporter

the Government.

The paper they had presented had a growth period of 18 years, "but what we have got is 19 years", he said.

He told the doctors this was the first time they were going to have a scheme of service.

On allowances requested by doctors, he said the Government had accepted this "in principle".

Last February, Health Minister Arthur Magugu, together with eight Government doctors representing their colleagues, called on President Moi and submitted their proposals.

The proposals were for a comprehensive new scheme of service to replace the terms spelled out for civil servants in the Waruhiu Commission report.

The doctors wanted an allowance of up to 50 per cent of their new proposed salaries a month to compensate for the private practice they had to forfeit to stay in public service.

They also wanted the 50 per cent non-private practice allowance payable to Government dentists backdated to 1978 when the Dentists Act was repealed forbidding professional private practice for dentists.