



**MEDIA RELEASE**                      **PSA calls for enhanced enforcement of the Code of Good Practice on Workplace Harassment**

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**EMBARGO**                                None

**ENQUIRIES**                              communication@psa.co.za

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The Public Servants Association of South Africa (PSA) urges the Department of Employment and Labour to intensify its efforts in ensuring the effective implementation of the *Code of Good Practice on the Prevention and Elimination of Harassment in the Workplace*.

During a PSA Women’s Day event on 9 August 2024 in Durban, the PSA emphasized the critical role of government in advancing the interests of women in South Africa. The event celebrated women excelling in public service and explored innovative opportunities for women’s empowerment in the sector.

The Deputy Minister of Employment and Labour, Mr Jomo Sibiya, addressed the gathering, highlighting the importance of recognizing and celebrating the strength and compassion of women. He called for greater protection of women by men and stressed that women should not tolerate any form of injustice or harassment. He encouraged women to use their intelligence and available opportunities, including voting for women in leadership roles, to combat gender-based injustices.

In response to these remarks, the PSA appeals to the Deputy Minister to strengthen protection for women across all sectors. The PSA underscores that efforts to support women must extend beyond Women’s Month in August and become an integral part of daily workplace practices to ensure sustained excellence and transformation for women.

Despite the Department’s introduction of the *Code of Good Practice on the Prevention and Elimination of Harassment in the Workplace* in 2022, incidents of harassment continue to increase. The PSA urges the Department to establish robust mechanisms for monitoring compliance and to take decisive action against employers who fail to adhere to the *Code*.

The PSA remains steadfast in the Union’s commitment of advocating for safer, fairer workplaces and urges the Department to prioritise the protection and empowerment of women as a national imperative.

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