

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**PSA welcomes extension of Community Works Programme contracts but calls for sustainable employment solutions**

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**EMBARGO**

None

**ENQUIRIES**

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) acknowledges government's decision to extend contracts for Community Works Programme (CWP) workers.

This extension provides much-needed relief to over 67 000 workers aged 55 and older who were on the brink of unemployment by the end of January. Whilst the PSA recognises this as a temporary reprieve for vulnerable workers, stop-gap measures are not a sustainable solution to South Africa's employment crisis. Many of these workers, after years of dedicated service, remain trapped in precarious employment, with no clear pathway to permanent positions, social security, or financial stability in their later years.

The PSA reiterates the Union's call for long-term, structural reforms that prioritise job security, fair wages, and the insourcing of essential services. The continued reliance on contract extensions underscores a deeper systemic failure in workforce planning. Government must commit to a coherent strategy that ensures dignified, stable employment for workers who have tirelessly contributed to community development.

The PSA further urges authorities to engage in meaningful dialogue with unions to develop policies that promote sustainable job creation and fair labour practices. South Africa cannot afford to perpetuate cycles of uncertainty for workers whose livelihoods depend on government-funded initiatives.

The PSA remains steadfast in advocating for a fair and just labour market where workers are treated with dignity and respect. The PSA will continue to hold government accountable for ensuring employment policies align with long-term economic stability and social justice.

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