

MEDIA RELEASE	Public Service salary dispute: PSA calls on its members to vote on strike action
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The Public Servants Association of South Africa (PSA), representing more than 230 000 public servants, has commenced the process of balloting its members for strike action in the current 2021/22-wage dispute with the State as employer.

Parties deadlocked in negotiations on 23 April 2021, whereafter a facilitation process followed. When this process failed, the matter was referred for conciliation on 11 May 2021. During the conciliation meeting on 3 June 2021, the employer rather than attempting to resolve the differences between the parties, opted to argue that the matter was referred prematurely. The Commissioner eventually issued a certificate to indicate that the dispute remained unresolved.

This enabled the PSA to ballot its members to determine their support for strike action. The PSA commenced with the ballot process on 17 June 2021 after adapting the voting process to also include an electronic process owing to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. This process electronic ballot via the Union's website will close on 28 June 2021.

The PSA has simultaneously approached the Public Service Coordinating Bargaining Council to establish the required picketing rules to enable the PSA to serve the employer with adequate notice for a strike. The PSA's strike methods will, as far as possible, take into consideration the economic impact on its members, the new way of work, and will be considerate of the pandemic. Actions will be adapted to the current environment but will be spear-headed to have the most impact on Government itself.

The PSA will decide on what form the industrial action will take once the outcome of its balloting process is received.

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