

FOR PSA MEMBERS: DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS (DHA)

07-10-2024

Feedback: DHA Special Departmental Bargaining Chamber (DBC) Meeting - 4 October 2024

Five-year vision: Automation, Digitisation, and on-line services - Immigration and Civic Services

The PSA has noted with disappointment that the Minister of Home Affairs issued a media statement pertaining to the implementation of a five-year vision of the Department, which envisaged introducing automation, digitisation, and on-line services for Immigration and Civic Services. The PSA raised concern that such a plan and vision would have a direct impact on the conditions of service of employees. The PSA expected the employer to take labour into confidence on the matter before a media statement is issued. Subsequently, the PSA requested for an urgent special DBC meeting and parties agreed to meet on 4 October 2024. The employer noted the concern raised and apologised for not consulting labour on the matter. It further committed that there will be no job losses as result of processes to be implemented. The employer agreed that a meeting between the Minister and the principals of the recognised unions in the Department will be held at the right time to outline and present a comprehensive five-year vision of the Department. Furthermore, the employer agreed to convene a workshop for DBC members to outline details of the plan and how it would affect employees. The PSA noted the submission by the employer and urged it to fast-track consultation. Members will be informed of developments.

Non-payment of stipend: Digitisation project

The PSA received queries from members working at the digitisation project in Silverton, Brits, and Pretoria Central Hubs. Members raised a concern that they were not paid their stipend for September. The PSA engaged the employer and condemned the non-payment of the stipend without consulting affected employees. The PSA maintained that the employer was expected to follow relevant public service legislation before the stipends were stopped. The employer noted the concerns raised by the PSA and indicated that it was busy verifying work attendance of affected employees and would affect payments as matter of urgency. Already it has started to make payments for some affected employees. Parties agreed to convene a task team meeting on 8 October 2024 to finalise the verification process and effect payments by 10 October 2024. Affected members are requested to submit their details to the PSA Chief Negotiator at peter.mngomezulu@psa.co.za and Madimetja.mautla@psa.co.za for the purpose of verification of work attendance and payment of the stipend by 8 October 2024.

Employees who want to join the PSA can visit the PSA's website, send an email to ask@psa.co.za, or contact PSA Provincial Offices.

Reuben Maleka
GENERAL MANAGER