



FOR PSA MEMBERS: DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND INNOVATION (DSTI)

19-03-2025

Feedback: DSTI Departmental Bargaining Chamber – 18 March 2025

Departmental vacancies

The employer reported that the Department has 117 unfilled positions, where six priority positions were identified, but concurrency could not be obtained from the DPSA. The Department, through the CFO's office, will engage the DPSA and National Treasury in further discussions about filling priority positions. A further six positions were identified, bringing the total of priority positions to twelve. The PSA noted the feedback and although not pleased, hopes that the engagement with the DPSA and Treasury will yield positive results.

DSTI building and acquisition of interim office space

The employer submitted the draft lease agreement to the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure for review on 6 December 2024. The employer also reported that the process of allocating office space for employees in Buildings 41 and 42 has commenced. Both buildings will accommodate 137 employees at a time. The employer further reported that the tender process for renovations of the building is underway. The upgrading project was advertised and the site briefing attended by various contractors, conducted at the DSTI building. The employer shared the project execution plan as previously requested by the PSA. The handover of the DSTI building will take place in July. The PSA noted the employer's submission.

DSTI structure review

Members were advised that the structure review process was currently underway. A meeting with the newly appointed Executive Authority was held to re-visit the proposed structure. The employer stated that the follow-up meeting requested by the Executive Authority is yet to take place. The employer promised to notify labour once the consultation was completed. The PSA expressed dissatisfaction with the report and urged the employer to fast-track the process.

Occupational health and safety compliance

The inspection for identification of defects and OHS compliance was conducted at DSTI Building 53. It was found that some lights on the ground floor, first, and second floor were dysfunctional. The plan to fix the lights is underway and will be completed by 31 March 2025. The arrangement has been made with

Facilities to remove massage chairs that are obstructing movement to the sick bay. The PSA will monitor the process as the safety of the employees remains the priority.

Employees who want to join the PSA can visit the PSA website or contact PSA Provincial Offices.

Reuben Maleka
GENERAL MANAGER