

FOR PSA MEMBERS: DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND COOPERATION (DIRCO)

03-09-2019

## Update: Departmental Bargaining Chamber (DBC): 29 August 2019

### Vote weights: 2019/20

The PSA has 821 members (47.68%), Nehawu has 880 members (51.10%) and Popcru has 21 members (1.22%).

### Collective Agreement: New shift system

Parties are still experiencing a challenge to conclude this agreement following the complexity to average hours of work. The matter was referred to the multilateral.

### Payment: Subsistence and Travel (S&T) Allowance Claims - International trips

This matter was previously tabled by the PSA following challenges experienced by members and other employees when withdrawing money while on international trips. The PSA complained that in some instances and depending on the strength of currencies of countries officially visited, employees are:

- Disadvantaged by getting far less than allowances paid to them;
- Compelled to pay medical expenses in case of an injury sustained during official international trips; and
- Negatively affected by contradiction between S&T Financial *Circular of 2018/2019* and a letter from National Treasury.

The item was deferred to the next meeting owing to the non-availability of an expert to address the matter.

### Placement abroad

The employer tabled the Placement Policy draft that will deal with placement abroad. It was referred to the Policy Task Team for consultation.

### Policies

The employer tabled number of policies, including the Working Hours and Remunerative Overtime and Resettlement Policies. The list tabled was chopped and changed. The employer, as a result, subsequently promised to send the correct list and draft policies thereof to labour through the Chamber Secretary. The PSA Departmental Branch Chairperson will circulate the list and drafts to

members on receipt. Members are requested to peruse the drafts and send inputs to the Chairperson as per the timeframe that will be provided.

**Election: DBC Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson: Labour**

This item was deferred to the next DBC to enable parties to caucus and decide on suitable people.

Members will be informed of developments.

Ivan Fredericks  
GENERAL MANAGER