

FOR PSA MEMBERS: DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LAND REFORM (DRDLR)

28-11-2019

Feedback: Departmental Bargaining Chamber (DBC) – 21 November 2019 and Special meeting - 27 November 2019

Policies

The employer reported that policies of the merged departments will be coordinated and branded before being consulted with labour.

Occupation-Specific Dispensation (OSD)

The employer presented the following statistics:

- 462 OSD cases were received.
- 303 cases were verified as correct translations.
- 18 cases could not be translated as employees thereof were not registered with specified councils.
- 53 were translated after relevant information was provided.
- 4 were approved for translation and currently pending to be processed.
- Weekly meetings are held to deal with outstanding cases.

Separately from above statistics, the employer reported that 27 professional posts were advertised after translation period. Candidates professionals who complained about not being translated into OSD applied and were considered.

Occupational health and safety concerns

The employer promised to confirm developments on concerns previously tabled by labour and provide written report that will be shared with labour. Concerns, amongst others, relate to:

- Conditions that are not conducive
- State of buildings in which employees are working
- The decision to procure building that was not recommended

Electronic Deeds Registration System (e-DRS) Project

The employer reported that the matter is receiving attention. Developments will be shared with labour and consultation take place if needed.

Staffing levels, human resource costs and other expenditure

The PSA tabled this matter following the intention to reduce headcounts in the Public Service whilst there is serious incapacity that results in employees being over-loaded and exploited. The PSA requested the employer to provide labour with, amongst others, the current approved structure and personnel costs as well as current vacant positions and savings from unfilled vacant posts. The employer promised to provide the information by 29 November 2019.

Reconfiguration

It was reported that the PSCBC has concluded a Collective Agreement (PSCBC Resolution 1/2019) and chambers of affected departments were workshopped on this. It was further reported that joint sitting of the DRDLR and DAFF Departmental Task Teams will be held to engage on the merger and start-up structure of the new department, etc.

Members will be informed of developments.

Ivan Fredericks
GENERAL MANAGER