

MEDIA RELEASE	Proposed overhaul of SETA system: PSA calls for full consultation with organised labour
DATE	24 March 2026
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The Public Servants Association (PSA) noted President Cyril Ramaphosa's remarks on *News24 On The Record Summit*, where he committed to overhauling the current Sector Education and Training Authority (SETA) system, replacing it with a fit-for-purpose model that better supports young people in accessing employment opportunities.

The PSA is a key stakeholder representing hundreds of thousands of employees across the public sector, the PSA emphasises that no meaningful overhaul of the SETA landscape can occur without comprehensive consultation with organised labour.

SETAs play a critical role as entry point for skills development and job opportunities, particularly for South African youths. Effective functioning is essential to sustaining a capable workforce and reducing unemployment. If SETAs are not properly governed, strategically aligned, and adequately resourced, the Country risks undermining the job market and limiting opportunities for young people, weakening national development.

The PSA calls on the President and relevant departments to engage in thorough and transparent consultation with organised labour throughout the SETA reform process. No employees in the current SETAs must be made redundant or retrenched. Evidence-based research must be conducted to identify a sustainable and effective model that meets South Africa's economic, demographic, and labour-market needs. Any new system must prioritise accountability, skills relevance, and accessibility for young people seeking pathways into employment whilst protecting and enhancing the integrity of skills-development institutions, ensuring they contribute meaningfully to national growth and workforce readiness.

The PSA is ready to participate constructively in this process and contribute the Union's expertise to ensure that the reformed skills-development landscape strengthens employment prospects and supports the future of the nation.

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