

MEDIA RELEASE Public Service salaries: PSA warns against exclusion of unions from negotiations

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) is extremely concerned that Government's attempts to reduce the Public Service wage bill whilst a three-year agreement is still in place is making a mockery of the negotiation process.

The PSA previously indicated and is once again reiterating that attempts to slash public servants' salaries in the wake of the effects of fraud, corruption and poorly-run state-owned enterprises will be vigorously opposed by the Union with its more than 240 000 members.

The PSA has maintained that the Public Service Coordinating Bargaining Council is the only appropriate forum to negotiate on public servants' salaries and conditions of service. The practice of addressing and speculating on these matters in the media contributes to anxiety and panic amongst public servants.

The PSA further pointed out that the current Public Service wage agreement only ends in 2022 and must be honoured by the State. The PSA therefore calls on the State to urgently engage unions on any proposals to reduce the wage bill and find solutions to grow the economy. The PSA and other unions also have a vested interest to ensure that the economy prospers and that public servants, like other citizens of this country, also be treated with dignity and respect instead of being treated as the sole cause of the economic crises.

END