

MEDIA RELEASE	PSA demands government's confirmation of public servants' April 2020 wage increases
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EMBARGO	None
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The Public Servants Association (PSA), which represents more than 230 000 public servants, is becoming increasingly concerned about government's silence regarding the implementation of negotiated wage increases for public servants in the wake of government's intent to save R37.8 billion on the wage bill over a three year period .

Following the outright rejection by Public Sector unions, including the PSA, of government's last-minute request to review the Wage Agreement for the 2020, impacting on increases that are due to be implemented in 20 working days, government remains silent. To date, there has been no attempt by the State as employer to raise this matter in the Public Service Coordinating Bargaining Council (PSCBC) for negotiation or to explain where it intends to make up the saving of R37,8 billion this year ..

Government indicated that it cannot afford to implement the last leg of the wage agreement that was signed in 2018 and has since not given any assurance that these increases will be implemented in line with the provisions of the Agreement. Already, public servants took a risk to enter into a three-year agreement to gain the security of a meagre increase, even if the economy changed. This after the same employer during wage negotiations rejected labour's proposal for a single-term agreement.

The PSA has previously warned of the consequences that may follow should there be any unilateral deviation from the provisions of the Agreement. Tensions are rising amongst public servants as the implementation date is drawing nearer. Government's deathly silence is posing and increasing risk to give rise to actions that will have further dire consequences on the economy.

The PSA will approach the PSCBC to obtain confirmation from government on the percentage increase due to public servants based on the CPI figure as determined by National Treasury.

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