

MEDIA RELEASE	PSA demands tangible action in government's North West re-industrialisation plans
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The Public Servants Association (PSA) noted the announcement by the Minister of Small Business Development regarding plans to re-industrialise North West's economy.

Whilst the PSA welcomes any initiative aimed at job creation and economic revitalisation, the Union strongly warns against turning this into another political showpiece without tangible results for workers and communities. For decades, North West has suffered from chronic unemployment, collapsing infrastructure, and failed service delivery. More than half of the Province's population remains jobless, and public servants continue to operate under deteriorating conditions. The PSA rejects the pattern of recycled government promises that never translate into sustainable development or decent work.

The announcement of the Mahikeng Digital Innovation Hub is a positive gesture, but without concrete timelines, accountability measures, and clear outcomes, it risks becoming yet another photo opportunity. The PSA demands that the Department of Small Business Development, together with provincial and local government, presents a detailed implementation plan with measurable targets, proper oversight, and independent monitoring.

The PSA further demands that all re-industrialisation projects prioritise the employment of local residents, not politically connected outsiders. Skills development programs must align with real job opportunities, rather than theoretical training that leads nowhere. Workers' rights and labour standards must be protected in every new factory, hub, and industrial zone. Corruption, tender manipulation, and political interference must be eliminated from all economic projects in the Province.

North West has abundant mineral wealth and industrial potential, yet poverty and unemployment remain rampant owing to mismanagement and corruption. The PSA will hold government accountable to ensure that the so-called "inclusive economic growth" is not another empty slogan. The PSA reminds national and provincial leaders that communities are losing patience. Public servants, as the core of service delivery, cannot continue working under conditions of economic decay whilst government issues speeches without results.

The PSA calls on President Cyril Ramaphosa's administration to back its words with decisive, transparent, and measurable action. Re-industrialisation must not enrich a few elites only - it must deliver jobs, skills, and dignity to the people of North West.

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