

**MEDIA RELEASE**                      PSA joins call for moratorium of executives' wages

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) supports the call by labour parties for a three-year wage moratorium for public-office bearers in addition to President Cyril Ramaphosa's instruction for a review on aspects of the ministerial handbook, especially perks afforded to members of the executive.

President Ramaphosa instructed the Ministers of Finance, Public Works and Public Service and Administration to review the ministerial handbook and provide a guide on where to cut "perks".

In the face of ongoing talk and reports about the culling of jobs in the Public Service to lower the wage bill, cutting luxurious benefits from the executive will assist in curbing unnecessary wasteful expenditure in the Public Service. The PSA welcomes this news, following the President's earlier support for increased benefits for the executive, including more staff and security upgrades at their homes, costing taxpayers a total of R300 000.

With the highest increase in unemployment in over a decade, the only responsible step for government officials is to re-examine how taxpayers' money is spent, especially on non-essential items such as travelling with family members. A staggering total of 455 000 South Africans have lost their jobs in the second quarter of 2019 alone. In the face of a developing national crisis, the PSA calls for drastic cuts of wasteful spending and more concrete plans to ensure job creation.

In addition, the PSA calls for the speedy finalisation of hundreds of public servant's outstanding applications for medical retirement and pointed out that undue delays in finalising such cases cannot be tolerated.

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