MEDIA RELEASE	PSA notes salary increase for public office bearers: Insists that politicians' increase must be performance based
DATE	11 November 2026
EMBARGO	None
ENQUIRIES	communication@psa.co.za

The Public Servants Association (PSA) noted President Cyril Ramaphosa's determination of salary increases for public office bearers for the 2026/27-financial year.

The PSA particularly noted that the 3.5% increase awarded to Members of Parliament, Ministers, Premiers, and Members of Provincial Legislatures is, for the first time in many years, broadly aligned with salary adjustments received by employees in the broader public service. This is an acknowledgment development in promoting consistency and fairness in remuneration across the public sector.

The PSA recognises the demanding responsibilities associated with public office and believes that appropriate remuneration is necessary to attract and retain capable people who are entrusted with serving South Africa and its citizens. The reality is, however, that the persistent increase in the cost of living, including food, fuel, electricity, transport, and other essential expenses, continues to place enormous pressure on household finances. Even public office bearers, including Members of Parliament, may find that such an adjustment offers limited relief against the financial pressures experienced.

The PSA believes that this announcement must also serve as an important reminder that public servants who are at the coalface of service delivery cannot continue to be overlooked when remuneration adjustments are considered. Teachers, nurses, police officers, social workers, correctional officials, administrative personnel, and other public servants are equally affected by the rising cost of living and deserve meaningful recognition for their contribution to the Country.

Although the announcement is noted, the PSA calls for the increases to be based on performance, considering persistent upheaval based on service delivery. This will ensure that basic services to all citizens remain a priority. Forthcoming wage negotiations will present an opportunity for government to demonstrate that it values its employees through tangible and appropriate salary adjustments.

END