

MEDIA RELEASE PSA welcomes G20 commitment to development and social goals: Calls for urgent

action in South Africa

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) notes commitments made at the recent G20 Summit in Johannesburg to prioritise poverty eradication, food security, universal education, health coverage, gender equality, and decent work.

These goals are critical for sustainable development and social justice globally and in South Africa. Whilst the PSA welcomes these pledges, the Union emphasises that words must translate into action. South Africa faces persistent challenges, including rising poverty and inequality despite economic growth targets, food insecurity affecting millions of households, education gaps that undermine youth development, healthcare access strained by underfunded public systems, gender disparities, and a lack of decent work opportunities for vulnerable groups.

Public servants are at the forefront of delivering these essential services, yet they continue to work under severe resource constraints. The PSA calls on the South African government to align national policies with G20 commitments and ensure adequate funding for social programs, strengthen public service capacity to implement these goals effectively, and engage unions and civil society in monitoring progress and accountability.

The PSA will actively monitor the implementation of these commitments and advocate for transparent timelines and measurable outcomes. Development cannot remain a talking point - it must become a lived reality for all South Africans. The PSA has continuously called for decent work. This includes the permanent appointment of Community Health Workers and Education Assistants who are amongst categories that are not enjoying any benefits and security and continue to receive a minimal stipend whilst being critical for these sectors.

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