

MEDIA RELEASE	PSA welcomes move to appoint 10 000 additional Labour Inspectors to enforce workplace laws nationwide
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The Public Servants Association (PSA) welcomes the decision by government to appoint 10 000 additional Labour Inspectors across South Africa to strengthen the enforcement of labour laws and promote safer, fairer working conditions for all employees.

The PSA has long raised concerns about chronic understaffing of the labour inspection function, which has limited government's ability to monitor compliance with legislation such as the *Basic Conditions of Employment Act*, the *Labour Relations Act*, and the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*. The appointment of a significantly expanded inspectorate is therefore a critical intervention toward protecting workers against exploitation, unsafe workplaces, and non-compliance with statutory benefits. South Africa has witnessed an increase in non-compliance with labour laws by employers, including widespread failure to pay pension money and allegations of appointment of illegal foreigners, mostly in vulnerable sectors.

This measure will enhance proactive inspections in high-risk sectors and will strengthen rapid response to reported violations. This will ensure that employers who disregard labour legislation are held accountable. The PSA is confident that this decision will contribute to reducing workplace accidents, curbing unlawful labour practices, and improving overall workplace stability.

The PSA urges the Department of Employment and Labour to ensure that the new Inspectors receive training and resources, with regional deployment to maximise impact. The PSA is committed to working collaboratively with government to advance decent work, protect vulnerable employees, and uphold the rights enshrined in South Africa's labour laws.

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