

MEDIA ALERT 12 February 2026

Trade Unions in the PSCBC to Brief Media on GEMS Contribution Increases and Planned Programme of Action

Trade unions in the Public Service Coordinating Bargaining Council will address the media on Sunday, 15 February 2026, regarding the planned programme of action by public servants against the Government Employees Medical Scheme (GEMS).

The protest follows the decision to implement a 9.8 percent membership contribution increase from January 2026, followed by a revised 9.5 percent adjustment effective 1 April 2026.

The increases follow a 13.4 percent increase implemented in 2025 and comes at a time when public servants received a 5.5 percent salary adjustment for 2025/26 and are due to receive a 4 percent increase for 2026/27. The cumulative impact has raised serious affordability concerns for public servants across critical and essential public services.

The press briefing will outline:

- The financial impact of the contribution increases, coupled with the unilateral changes to the Tanzanite benefit option for public servants.
- Concerns regarding governance, administrative expenditure, and regulatory compliance
- Organised labour in the PSCBC's formal demands
- The planned programme of action, including mass mobilisation and engagements with relevant authorities

Details of the briefing are as follows:

**Venue: Public Service Coordinating Bargaining Council
PSCBC Building
260 Basden Avenue
Lyttelton Manor
Centurion
Date: Sunday, 15 February 2026
Time: 10:00**

Media colleagues are encouraged to confirm attendance with **Betty Moleya – 063 736 5533**

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