INFORMUS



FOR PSA MEMBERS: DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS (DHA)

15-07-2020

Feedback: Multilateral meeting

The PSA noted with concern three fatalities and 110 confirmed positive COVID-19 cases at the DHA. A multilateral meeting was convened on 14 July 2020 where the following agenda items were discussed amongst others:

Vulnerable employees

The PSA indicated that this category of employees is at high risk of being infected with the virus and requested the employer to allow them to stay at home during this period. The employer noted the report and agreed that all vulnerable employees who have submitted the relevant medical reports to Human Resources and their respective supervisors would stay at home until further notice.

Temporary suspension of some services under level 3

The PSA requested the employer to consider the temporary suspension of some of services rendered by the DHA during alert level 3. The PSA motivated that the introduction of more services would increase the risks of further infections. The employer noted the input and indicated that the matter will be escalated to EXCO for consideration.

Ports of Entry

The PSA received reports that there are confirmed cases at the ORTIA, Ramatlabama, Maseru, Ficksburg, Mahamba and Caledonspoort border posts and these posts were closed temporarily. Most of these border posts do not have water and hygiene protocols are compromised. The PSA was concerned about the non-compliance with COVID-19 regulations at these ports of entry and requested urgent intervention. The PSA requested the employer to implement health and safety measures and review the risk assessment plan for ports of entry. The employer noted the report and indicated that it has established a joint task team with other entities, which include SARS, the Department of Health and the SAPS to manage COVID-19 at ports of entry. The employer further indicated that it has engaged the Department of Public Works to assist with issues related to water shortages, especially at Golela border post. The employer will provide a progress report at the next National Steering Committee meeting on 22 July 2020.

The PSA wants to take this opportunity to wish all employees who have been infected by the virus a speedy recovery.

GENERAL MANAGER