UPDATE: Return to work by employees

A virtual Covid-19 steering committee meeting was held on the 12 May 2020. The department provided an update regarding the state of readiness to open the offices under level 4 lockdown. The supply chain unit, security unit and human resources management made presentations to provide a progress report pertaining to compliance measures to be implemented. It was indicated that the health and safety equipment such as the scanners, masks, gloves, and sanitizers were already procured for all the regional offices and head office. Most of the offices were disinfected and deep cleaned.

The department further indicated that the employees would return to work gradually and would work on rotational basis. The one third of staff establishment will report for duty in each office. The employees with medical conditions and those over 60 years will be exempted from reporting to work as per the DPSA directives. The employees who were identified to work remotely will be provided with the necessary working tools.

The department however, indicated that it was not ready to operate immediately and will only do so when all the health and safety measures are in place. The employees working in finance and supply chain management might be recalled in cases of emergency. A circular will be issued to outline the administrative protocols to be followed by employees when they return to work. The PSA requested that the OHS committees be established in each region to perform an oversight role in this regard.

The PSA will continue to protect the members against hazardous working conditions in the workplace. Members are encouraged to remain vigilant and report any non-compliance of the OHS regulations to the PSA through the shop stewards.

GENERAL MANAGER