

FOR PSA MEMBERS: FORENSIC CHEMISTRY LABORATORIES (FCL)

05-11-2020

Feedback: Health Chamber meeting - 3 November 2020

The PSA has discovered planned sessions nationally at the above-mentioned employer workplaces where the employer arranged meetings with staff to engage them on the planned transfer to National Health Laboratory Services (NHLS).

President Ramaphosa together with the Health Minister, Dr Mkhize, signed a Proclamation on 5 August 2020, which seeks to transfer FCL to NHLS. The PSA was never engaged through any official recognised platform to participate in the discussions around this transfer.

The PSA, through the National Health Chamber, tabled an agenda item about the planned transfer of FCL and the employer indicated that it had no information to engage with labour through the Chamber about the planned transfer. The employer therefore requested for the item to be removed from the agenda until it has information to commence with the discussion.

Again, the PSA discovered on 3 November 2020, planned staff sessions within FCL where the employer wanted to communicate and engage directly with employees without the involvement of labour or through the Chamber. The PSA was, however, able to attend the first meeting that was to be held with members at FCL Pretoria offices. Fortunately, owing to intervention, the meeting was cancelled to allow the consultation process to unfold in the Chamber.

The PSA subsequently requested for a special Chamber meeting and the response is awaited.

Members are urged to refrain from attending any meetings called by the employer aimed at discussing issues around the transfer until the matter is fully discussed at the Chamber. No member will be victimised for not attending such meetings. If there is any victimisation of employees by the employer, this should be escalated to the PSA offices for intervention.

GENERAL MANAGER