

FOR PSA MEMBERS: DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN, YOUTH AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES (DWYPD)

08-11-2021

Update: Departmental Bargaining Chamber (DBC)

A DBC was held on 8 November 2021 and the following matters were discussed:

Policies

The employer reported that numerous policies are under review, which are subsequently being dealt with at the level of the Task Team. These policies will also be consulted through internal processes. Once the consultation processes are finalised, the policies will be tabled at the level of the Chamber. The Working Hours Policy will be amended to be in line with the current rotational working arrangements. The Employment Equity Consultative Forum has been established in the Department to deal with such matters as prescribed by the *Employment Equity Act*.

OHS Compliance and COVID-19 regulations

The employer has reported that there is no change from previous reports and is complying with COVID-19 protocols and is subsequently still working on a 70%-rotational basis. The National Steering Committee meets bi-monthly to deal with COVID-related issues. The PSA has asked the employer to provide statistics of employees who were infected with COVID-19 since the beginning of this year to date. The employer indicated that it does not have exact statistics but committed to provide information in the next DBC. The next National Steering Committee Meeting is scheduled for 18 November 2021.

Review: Organisational structure

The employer reported that the review of the organisational structure is still work in progress. The Director-General has requested to meet with the Chief Directorate - Macro-Organisation from the DPSA to deal with this issue. The employer will provide a report in the next DBC. Labour was not pleased with the report by the employer in that this organisational structure review is taking too long to be finalized. As a result, employees are getting frustrated by the slow pace of the employer. The employer indicated that should there be any fundamental changes before the next DBC, a special DBC will be convened to give feedback to parties.

The PSA wants to take this opportunity to wish all employees who are unwell owing to COVID-19 safe and speedy recovery.

GENERAL MANAGER