

FOR PSA MEMBERS: **DEPARTMENT OF TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS (DTA)**

21-04-2022

## Feedback: Departmental Bargaining Chamber (DBC)

### COVID-19 regulations

The employer made a presentation providing an update up to 31 December 2021 and indicated that all COVID-19 protocols are being strictly adhered to. Employees who are 60 years and older and employees with underlying medical conditions are still working remotely. The PSA rejected the report as outdated because the employer's report was a response aligned to regulations under alert-level 3. It was agreed that the employer will update the report, address the issue of vaccination and share the report with PSA within seven days.

### GPSSBC Resolution 5/2014 implementation (Agreement on Recognition of Improved Qualifications in the Public Service)

The employer indicated that a list of qualifications for recognition was approved by the DPSA and that it is busy implementing the said Resolution. The PSA noted the status report but bemoaned the lack of details in the report, i.e., the number of employees who applied, number of applications approved, number of employees already paid, etc. Parties agreed that the employer will update the report with the required information and share it with PSA within seven days. The PSA, after putting enormous pressure on the employer, is delighted that the employer is finally implementing the Resolution and benefitting employees.

### Policies

The employer reported that it has received inputs from the on the OHS policy, Special Leave policy, and Mobile Communications policy. Management is still considering the inputs. Parties agreed that the employer will schedule a task team meeting for further consultation on the policies before the end of April 2022.

### December holidays office closure

The employer indicated that it is unable to accede to the request by the PSA to close its offices for the festive holidays from 27 to 30 December 2022 where employees will not be required to utilise their leave days as the Department plays an oversight role of initiation schools during that period. The PSA voiced disappointment at the employer's response and indicated that it will explore available avenues to resolve the deadlock.

GENERAL MANAGER